

Lawrence Textile Strikers Increase Power in Struggle

Have Successfully Fought Employers and Reactionary Labor Leaders for Thirteen Weeks and Strike Still Gains Strength as More Workers Go Out Against Mill Barons

(Special Correspondence)

Today marks the end of the thirteenth week of the fight of the Lawrence textile workers against a reduction of 20% in their wages which were already too low for a family to live on. Three weeks ago, a 20% reduction was struck against a 42½% reduction, the strikers having at a mass meeting laid down the basis of settlement of the strike and so notified each of the mills.

They demanded not only the restoration of the 20% reduction but the restoration of the 22½% which was taken away from them in December 1933 when they were in no position to resist on account of the lockout just previously in the summer.

They demanded that there shall be no discrimination on account of activities in the strike.

They demand recognition of the union through the shop committees elected by the workers.

At the time the strike took place there was probably less than a thousand of the textile workers organized, although there were several unions. The strikers were in the Pacific Mill, both affiliated with the United Textile Workers of America, a mile square's union affiliated with the A. F. of T. O. and a General Workers' Unit of the One Big Union which had been organized January 3, 1933. Ever since its organization the O. B. U. has been having a weekly bulletin keeping the workers informed of the activities of the mill owners and the National Textile Association and warning them of the coming out in wages. When the textile strikers took place in the Rhode Island and Connecticut mills they were among the first to raise funds for the strikers. After two weeks the cotton mills in Lawrence posted the notice of a wage cut in their mills which precipitated the strike in that city and the workers rallied around the O. B. U., which called a meeting of the strikers at the Common in which they elected a committee for the purpose of conducting the strike. Immediately after the strike took place President McMahon and other members of the U. T. W. came to Lawrence and the strike committee invited them to cooperate in the strike. McMahon, but the first time McMahon appeared on the Common to speak to the strikers the first thing he did was to attack the O. B. U. and their members with.

(Continued on page 3)

CENTRALIA TRIAL WAS UNFAIR, SAY 4 MORE JURORS

Nine of 12 in Blue No. 11 Mr. W. Were Wrongly Convicted of Murder.

Your more Centralia (Wash.) trial jurors, making nine in all, now admit the accuracy of the charges made over and over again by the U. W. W. that the eight defendants, convicted of the killing of Lessor, Warren Grimm in the Ambridge Tavern, Seattle, did not have a fair trial. This news has just been made public in a statement by the legal bureau of the Seattle Central Labor Council.

Admission from the four jurors were obtained by Bert Caperton, a representative of that bureau. Each of the four read five copies of the affidavits made by their fellow jurors. Each admitted that the five jurors stating the facts correctly, when they told of the suppression of important testimony, the fact that the jurors were influenced by the fact that members of the American Legion were in conspiracy with local lumber magnates to raid the U. W. W. hall and probably hang the I. W. W.'s who happened to be caught there.

Each admits that if this conspiracy to do trespass, arson, assault and murder, had been brought to their knowledge during their trial, their verdict would have been an acquittal. They read the sworn statements of the other five that the jury was intimidated, that public opinion ran so strongly against the defendants that it was not safe to acquit them; that if the accused industrialists, who would either have been lynched or have been railroaded to another charge. None of the four denies the truthfulness of those affidavits.

Natural justice demands that public opinion be relieved by the labor committee's legal bureau for the time being. Other vital disclosures are expected by the near future.

One of the four who have changed their minds about the verdict is known as a "company man." He cases nothing about a new social order, but he has certain ideas in the light of what he has learned about the evidence heard by Judge John Wilson in the trial at Montevideo.

He was upgraded, after his discharge by the court, by various hatefully patriotic persons because he did not bow, in a verdict which would have handed the defendants. He admits there was a hostile atmosphere about the trial. He, too, is highly worked over the barbarous practices of (25 to 30 years) meted out to the Wobblies. He proposed the limit would be five years.

Another man who sat in the jury box says that two of the 12 came armed with a jury room, a stenographer, and a witness of their state of mind, and that he himself compelled them to take off and put away the gun. He thinks the whole affair very severe. He expected the upper limit of the sentence would be 10 years, especially when they had served a long term of imprisonment.

HERRIN RIOT PROBE WILL OPEN JULY 10

Marion, Ill. (By Mail)—A special grand jury on July 10 will begin investigating the Herrin riot at the coal camp, Circuit Judge Hartwell announced today.

Excavation of the Southern Illinois Coal company's strip mine, where the slain scabs were employed, was begun this morning, following removal of the mine and a charge buried at the mine. The digging is under direction of Casson McCowan.

In determining that the killings would be placed before the grand jury, Judge Hartwell explained that this date was the earliest a grand jury could be organized as a court is not in session at present.

OHIO NINE BARONS ASK SHERIFF FOR HELP

Assumes that several hundred union members were marching from Fair Point, Ohio, for the purpose of effecting a strike strike at Unsworth, officials at the mine sent a messenger late today to appeal to Sheriff Richard Lynch at St. Charlesville to aid Sheriff Lynch and Deputy Sheriff Baker to suppress the march. The messenger reported that workers at the strip mine were forced to move for safety. Lynch and Baker are aware of the situation.

FACTS CONCERNING RAIL STRIKE

Wage cuts announced by Rail Labor Board affect approximately 1,250,000 shopmen, maintenance of way men, clerks and miscellaneous trades.

On July 1st the Shopmen alone went on strike, affecting about 600,000 men.

Other trades are either taking votes or conducting negotiations with the Labor Board. The maintenance of way men have been betrayed into the hands of the employers by their leaders, who have agreed not to call a strike.

UNIONS NOW OUT

The workers now on strike include the shop crafts, embracing all carmen, blacksmiths, boilermakers, electricians, sheet metal workers, machinists and laborers employed in railroad shops.

Other workers belonging to maintenance of way men, engineers, oilers, clerks, etc., have gone out in sympathy, and all workers in the industry express desire to strike.

LABOR BOARD "OUTLAW" UNIONS

The Railway Labor Board, creature of capitalism, with a sweep of the hand, outlawed strikers and tried to organize scab union, while denying that strike-breakers are scabs.

Striking unions defy Labor Board and half-wit chairman Hooper.

RECRUITING STRIKE BREAKERS

Under protection of the government, scab herders in slums of cities recruit vicious elements to work on railroad.

Employment of negroes from Alabama and Georgia threatens serious race disturbances in Detroit, Newark and New York City.

THE EFFECT OF THE STRIKE

Impairment of freight and passenger service and resultant disruption of the transportation system of the country.

Other unions, not yet affected by wage cuts are anxious to join strike, which would immediately paralyze traffic and stop industry in U. S.

Workers' Party Engages Scabs For Entertainment

The Workers' Party of Detroit, Michigan, is having a hard time explaining just what sort of an United Front of labor it has been talking about. Aside from the idiotic opinion that the United Front can be secured by donating a dollar to the slush fund to enable it to pay the salaries of its job-holders, it has something else to explain.

Since then the officials of the party in Detroit, one of whom used to belong to a party named "The Revolutionary Tea Drinkers," an organization that ridiculed unions, have been explaining. One of them was the Thalia Dramatic Club, engaged the musician. They cannot explain why the Workers' Party stood for the scabs. Then again, the Thalia Dramatic Club is controlled by the Workers' Party, so that places the matter where it is at first.

This is the party of action, the party that has CONTACT with organized labor, according to the brains boss of the official organ of the Christmas party.

It's a gay life!

Street Car Strike Ties Up Buffalo and Vicinity

The street carmen of Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Tonawanda and Lockport went on strike at midnight July 1st, following a strike vote taken Thursday evening against a threatened wage cut. After the vote was taken and it was apparent to the company that the men were to strike, the employers revoked their announced wage cut. Since the union was not recognized by the company they thought the present a good time to fight for recognition of the union.

Although the company had withdrawn the threatened wage cut the men demanded they would not treat it as being a promise and therefore demanded a contract. Refusal of the company to recognize the union precipitated the strike.

The workers of the City of Buffalo are supporting the strike to the limit, and every person that owns a tin snip is busy supplying transportation facilities.

RAILWAY STRIKERS DECLARED OUTLAWS BY LABOR BOARD

LAKE SAILORS
VOTE TO STRIKE FOR
EIGHT HOUR DAY

Shorter Hours and Increase in Pay Demanded by Workers on Great Lake Steamers in Overwhelming Vote According to Reports From Chicago and Buffalo

The strike vote that began July 3 on the Great Lakes boats is reported to be almost one hundred per cent, according to information received from Buffalo and Chicago, where the officials are in contact with the strikers.

The strike will become effective the last week in July just at the beginning of heavy movements of crops on the Lakes. If the railroad strike can paralyze transportation by rail, the strike on the lake carriers will mean a complete paralysis of every method of transportation except motor trucks in the entire country.

Sailors, cooks, stewards, firemen, oilers and water tenders on all boats of the Lake Carriers' Association, operating on the Great Lakes are voting on the strike.

The vote will be counted July 6th at the offices of the sailors' union of the Great Lakes in Chicago and the offices of the Lake Carriers' Association at the marine district, oilers and water tenders' union at Buffalo.

Four hundred and fifty bulk cargo carriers engaged in the iron ore, grain and coal trades and three passenger boats, are affected by the strike vote.

About 11,200 members of the three unions are involved. They demand a reduction in working hours from twelve to eight a day, and an increase in pay.

The strike resolution declares that modern bulk freighters carry five times as much cargo in a season as boats of a few years ago and unload in one-fifth the time, but the Lake Carriers' Association still requires the sailors to work twelve hours a day seven days a week, which was the workday in effect for sailors when Christopher Columbus discovered America.

K. B. Nolas, general secretary of the sailors' union, has pledged William Lawrence, president of the Lake Carriers' Association, at Detroit, that the union is ready to meet ship owners in order to seek an agreement.

REACTONARY MINE LEADER PLAYS GAME OF EMPLOYERS

Frank L. Farrington, in Appeal to Miners of Illinois, Insinuates that Miners Were to Blame for Herrin Mine Kill

Frank L. Farrington, president of the Illinois Federation of Miners, issued an appeal last week to each of the 340 counties in the state to encourage miners to break aid to help protect the property on the mine sites.

The capitalist press, particularly the Chicago Tribune, has featured the utterances of Farrington and is using them against the miners who are now suffering their fourth month of struggle against the combined forces of the capitalist class.

"Whoever," said Farrington, "cannot possibly help the union cause. Already we are in desperate in the public mind and threatened with litigation which may cripple the union."

When the entire working class of the state of Illinois and of the United States has endorsed the action of the miners of Williamson county, a so-called leader of labor issues a statement giving aid and comfort to the enemy of the working class—the capitalist class.

This same Farrington, at the beginning of the strike, tried to break it and destroy the unity of action of the miners by entering into separate agreements with the mine owners of Illinois.

The militant elements of the Illinois miners' organization are solidifying their forces for the purpose of eliminating the labor lacker, Farrington, at the next election and filling his place with a representative of the rank and file.

CHICAGO ELEVATOR STRIKE

Seventy-one elevator operators and starters employed in railroad buildings in the city of Chicago walked out Monday. Their strike was because they had lost 4 cents an hour in wages.

The strike was effective at 8 A. M. and the stenographer working on the top floor of the Northwestern Building, fourteen stories high, who arrived just a moment too late was out of luck.

The strike is a wage-cut protest, said James J. McAndrew, business agent who ordered the walk-out. "We notified the employers on Thursday that we were going out on our wages were cut. The reduction means that instead of working for about \$15.50 a month we are now supposed to work for \$200.50 a month. Every man walked out."

PUBLISHERS FEARFUL OF PRINTER ELECTION

The Editor and Publisher, trade organ for American publishers, does not like the progressive leadership of the International Typographical Union and expresses itself editorially on the re-election of President John MacFadden as follows:

Election of President John MacFadden and an executive council largely of his own party in the International Typographical Union seems certain. Secretary J. W. Flagg is now the only representative of the old conservative elements who've given the I. T. U. its reputation as a good business organization, and employers can count on two years more of an administration which has cut the printing industry many millions dollars.

RAILROAD STRIKERS

The WORKERS' CHALLENGE is always with the working class in its struggle against the employing class. Your fight is our fight, the fight of the entire working class. We join in the struggle and we are ready to support any struggle that will help to bring about the betterment of the workers.

Address: 40 East 6th Street, New York City

Large Number Involved

Bert M. Jewell, President of the Railway Department of the American Federation of Labor, declared that the total number effected so far is between 600,000 and 700,000, the shops and about 150,000 maintenance of way men, telegraphers, signmen, clerks and freight handlers who walked out with the shopmen without orders from their unions.

The cause of the strike was the decision of the Railway Labor Board on strike wages of all classes of railway employees except those engaged in train, engine and yard service. The vote is

An Appeal from Virginia Coal Operators For the War

July 19, 1922

ASK FUNDS TO DEFEND SACCO

Small Capitalist Bankers End West's Appeal

A new appeal for funds to defend Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti... The appeal results in part: These actions may be placed and...

Bring your quota, if it is only a few cents... Public Service Organization Department of Building Employees

WANTED

Help is needed in addressing and following papers and envelopes... Herber W. Stanley Business manager

REACTION STRIKES AT TEACHERS' UNION

Aaron J. Lotey, chairman of the Committee on the Exploitation of the School Children... Many prominent members of the teachers union are preparing to combat the statements of Doney and will call upon organized labor to rally to their support.

PENNSYLVANIA EDITORS DENOUNCE HERRIN MINERS

True to their class interests, the petty capitalists of the country newspapers in Pennsylvania, assembled in convention of the State Editorial Association at Harrisburg, passed resolutions...

Verdict of the Coroner's Jury

The verdict of the coroner's jury was that the mine was unsafe and that the mine owners had violated their agreement with the strikers...

Capitalist Press Lied

All the newspaper talk about atrocities perpetrated by wages and young girls against the wounded scabs...

Everything Quiet

Everything is now quiet in the little city of Herrin and there is nothing in the appearance of the place to indicate that a few days ago was the scene of the most atrocious labor war in the history of the American labor movement.

PEORIA, ILL. WANTS PROTECTION FOR SCABS

Peoria, Ill., June 20.—A committee of the Peoria Chamber of Commerce this morning to visit all Peoria county strikers to induce the miners to quit work. The committee called at the home of Sheriff Short and accompanied them, but he refused. The tour is an outgrowth of a mass meeting of mine miners.

Operator in the vicinity of Pottsville and Edwards, fearing that force might be used to close their mines, have been ordered to furnish a list of names of all operators...

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strikes in that on the Wednesday, amounting to over \$135,000,000 annually, had been announced, and was overwhelmingly in favor of a strike. Fully 90 per cent of the miners voted in the immediate vote. Everywhere the men expressed the desire for immediate action, although they were not so unanimous as to be given power to the officials to call a strike.

Strike-Breakers Being Recruited

As soon as it was certain that a strike would be ordered the railway executives contacted their agents to open up employment offices for the purpose of recruiting scabs on the railroad. For the day's purpose attempts to secure the services of down-and-outers were made, but no headway was made, despite glowing promises of high wages.

Advertisements appeared in all the leading capitalist publications calling for men to take the places of the strikers, but a very small number was recruited in that way. The Board announced that there was no strike on the men who quit work, but no longer in the employ of the railroads as such. Such reasoning did not appeal even to those who had long been identified with the cause of attempting to crush the workers' organizations had to be devised.

Government As Scab Herd

In these desperate straits the railroad magnates were compelled to rely upon the government for help in breaking the workers. The Railway Labor Board issued a declaration of Monday to the effect that the unions had violated the Fracturing Act by calling a strike and that new unions composed of strike-breakers would immediately be organized. Since that time the government has been busy in organizing the employ of the railroad companies. The Labor Board no longer recognized the unions, and since that time it has provided for collective presentation of wage demands before the Labor Board, therefore it was the duty of the Board to get the strike broken.

When a Scab Is Not a Scab

Mr. Hoover, Chairman of the Labor Board, assures the prospective strike-breakers that in case they accept jobs with an anti-union employer, the government is now in the scab herding business. Hoover tries to convey the impression that a scab is no longer constituted the crime of scabbing, a crime against the working class which places its perpetrator under consideration as a member of human society. Not any half-hearted arguments of the cheap four-finger and publicity seeker, Hoover can eliminate the fact that a scab, whether under governmental protection or not, is the most heinous crime of the industrial face of the earth. To place them in the category of the human race is an insult to humanity. To place them in the category of the human race is an insult to humanity. To place them in the category of the human race is an insult to humanity.

Recruiting Tactics

In Chicago, on West Madison Street a gang of thugs and ex-convicts are opening up so-called employment offices for recruiting scabs in the various places of the strikers. The down-and-outers who flock to the bunk houses and ten-cent boys of that city are told there is no danger, and that they will be treated well. The same gangs that recruited the scabs for Herrin, Illinois are now being used to recruit scab workers for the railroads.

Other Workers Anxious To Strike

All other classes of workers on the railroads, including the trunk and file of the Brotherhoods (the Big Four) are anxious to go out on strike, knowing that unless the oppressive tactics of the Labor Board and other branches of the government are stopped, they have no hope. The strikers will be reduced to the level of pawns. The threats of loss of seniority rights laid on dead cars are an even greater threat. The strikers are not even a guarantee of a living wage.

Many maintenance of way workers are striking out on their own. They are in the Metropolitan District and reports from other points show the same sentiment.

The strike committees are urging all maintenance of way men to join them and it looks as if the officers of that organization will be forced to sanction the strike out on their own. They have exposed themselves as cowards, and the most contemptible of traitors by crawling back to Hoover and Lindbergh. They are the eyes of the maintenance of way men out at the hour of the walkout.

From Creston, Iowa, came the report that all the nightmen, old and young, in the yards and shops had walked out in sympathy with the strikers. In Buffalo, as the strikers walked out the engineers on the tracks were held back by a sign of encouragement to them. Everywhere the trainmen expressed a desire to be permitted to strike against the Labor Board and the government.

The idiotic claim that workers not strike against the government is a gross insult to the intelligence. The attitude of the government in relation to a strike was considered very different. Those of the strikers who read the most contempt for the whole governmental apparatus at Washington.

The action of the Labor Board, coming on the heels of the Communist declaration of the Supreme Court, virtually outlawed all forms of collective action of strikers against the government that will not soon be effaced.

The very facts of life are impressing upon the workers and the entire country the futility of traitorous unionism in face of the terrific drive that capital is now making against labor, and the railroad workers have reached the limit of endurance and are striving to perfect new forms of organization that will cope with the highly centralized power of the ruling class.

Not only is the idea of industrial unionism and anti-strike action by all the workers in the industry growing, but at the same time the interdependence of all industries, and the interdependence of all workers, and the other is eloquently teaching the workers that they must act as a class for the purpose of winning a complete and total struggle against the ruling class and its organ of coercion—the government.

As To Outlaws

The claim of the Labor Board that the movement of the railroad stop men is an "outlaw strike" is of no concern to the workers in the industry. The time may come when the government will declare a strike "outlaw," but in no means follows that the workers will be treated as outlaws. The ruling class is not going to let the workers have an outlet at all.

Today the strike is the only effective weapon of labor and it must be used to the best advantage. In case the workers are deprived of the legal right to strike, they will have to use against the government and supplemented with whatever means of resistance weapons they have at hand. The nature of the struggle in the future as now will be determined by the response of labor to the police class apologetics.

United action on the part of the workers is the only solution for the industrial class as today and the assault of the ruling class as the reactionary propaganda by its efforts to cover up the necessity for revolutionary action.

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New Subscribers' Subscription Blank

SIX (6) MONTHS FOR ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00)

I am a new subscriber. Send me THE WORKERS' CHALLENGE for the next six (6) months for the enclosed One Dollar (\$1.00).

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

LEADERS OF THE TEXTILE STRIKERS INCREASE POWER IN STRUGGLE

The result that the strikers turned away from all but their own... The union and many more would have joined but for the lack of the initiative...

Many Join Union

Since the beginning of the strike more than 300,000 workers have joined the union... The relief committee has maintained from the beginning...

Must Also Fight Reactionary Leaders

The strikers not only have to battle the mill owners, but they are obliged to combat the reactionary tactics of the U. T. W. Knowing that the U. T. W. has never been able to organize the lace workers...

All Workers in the Fight

There is also another reason why the strikers must be united... This is a good opportunity to organize the workers in that city for the first time...

Twenty Thousand Now Out

When the action of the cut down was passed the Arlington Mill did not... The strikers are now out on strike...

MINE GUARDS SHOOT EACH OTHER

When the mine guards run out of plain and fancy murdering of striking miners they endeavor to keep in practice by murdering one another... The relief committee has maintained...

KIZBAS ORGANIZATION

That Kuzbas is the laboratory of the Revolution, the place where men try out the durability of their political and economic convictions...

NEW ORGANIZATION OF SHOE WORKERS

The shoe workers of this country seem to be on a fair way to realize the dream of a more progressive workers' movement... The workers realize that they must win this strike...

FAMINE IN RUSSIA BECOMING MORE ACUTE

Reports are being spread broadcast through the press of the country to the effect that the famine in Soviet Russia is suffering most... The A. R. A. reports that "Famine is Broken" Ukraine...

TIPOS PROCESSING IN FIGHT FOR THE 44 HOURS

The International Typographical Union continues to make substantial progress in winning the 44-hour week... There are 6,000 typewriters and 931 apprentices on the strike...

STATE TROOPERS ATTACK PENNSYLVANIA STRIKERS

Striking miners near Brownsville, Pa., who were on strike to force the coal operators to pay the coal miners... The strikers are now out on strike...

RAISE MONEY FOR WORKERS' CHALLENGE

On Thursday, June 29, a general membership meeting of the New York City United Workers of America was held... The relief committee has maintained...

DISAGREES IN SACRAMENTO CASES

Crime and Private Detective Used All Final Against Defendant... The relief committee has maintained...

INDIANA GOVERNOR PROTECTS SCAB

Governor's move to protect the scab... The relief committee has maintained...

DESTROY THEIR OWN MINE: BLAME STRIKERS

The coal people at the Lupton mine of the Victor mine in California were destroyed and the tipple at the Victor mine of the Radcliffe-Summitville Coal Co. at... The relief committee has maintained...

BEAT UP SCAB

Brownsville, Pa.—Joseph Nych, a scab miner, is in a hospital here suffering from injuries sustained at the hands of a crowd of men here Friday night... The relief committee has maintained...

STRIKERS FORCE MINES TO CLOSE

On June 30, the 1000 miners of the Lupton mine in California were destroyed and the tipple at the Victor mine of the Radcliffe-Summitville Coal Co. at... The relief committee has maintained...

STRIKERS BUSY IN IOWA

The first demonstration of union sympathizers in Iowa since the coal strike started over three months ago... The relief committee has maintained...

WILLIAMS RE-ELECTED HEAD OF RURAL MAIL CARRIERS

Utica—George L. Williams was re-elected president of the New York State Federation of Rural Mail Carriers at the annual convention here... The relief committee has maintained...

TELEGRAPHERS DEMAND NEW SCALE

Chicago.—The Commercial Telegraphers' Union has notified the Chicago Telephone Co. that it desires a conference to establish wage scales for the year commencing July 1st... The relief committee has maintained...

CINCINNATI MAY FACE SCAB CASE

Joseph Oakland of Brownwood, Ohio, a minor, was brought to a special at Washington, D. C., Monday... The relief committee has maintained...

SOMEBODY SHOT A SCAB

Joseph Oakland of Brownwood, Ohio, a minor, was brought to a special at Washington, D. C., Monday... The relief committee has maintained...

BERLIN COMMUNIST BANG HINDENBURG IN EFFROY

Communists banged an effigy of Field Marshal Hindenburg, who was one of the main opponents of the Federal Government during the big working-men's demonstration in Berlin, July 7th... The relief committee has maintained...

WANT INDUSTRIAL COURT ESTABLISHED IN ILLINOIS

The Illinois State Association of Manufacturers has started a drive for the establishment of an Industrial Court in Illinois... The relief committee has maintained...

CANTON, ILL. MINERS IGNORE SHERIFFS ORDER

Canton, Ill., June 30—More than 1000 striking coal workers congregated at Cuba, part of here this afternoon, in defiance of an order by Sheriff Guy Williams that arrests would follow... The relief committee has maintained...

LIBERATOR OUTDOOR GAMBOL AND COSTUME BALL

ALL THE HIGHBROWS—ARTISTS WRITERS, REDS WILL BE THERE TICKETS 1.00 IN ADVANCE 1.50 AT THE DOOR 138 West 113th Street By Mail or by Desk

