

Fight NRA Attacks By Campaign for Jobless Insurance

By I. AMTER

Unemployment and Social Insurance has become the central issue before the working class. Although millions of workers still suffer from the illusion that the NRA will bring back work and prosperity, the application of the codes is showing to the masses that it was not introduced for this purpose. The workers in the shops are finding in their pay envelopes that

A. F. of L. Leaders to Draw Sharp Fire from Rank and File

100 to Attend Wash-
ington Meeting on
October 2

NEW YORK.—Simultaneously with the 53rd Annual Convention of the A. F. of L., which takes place in Washington, D. C., on Oct. 2nd and 3rd, a Rank and File Conference of A. F. of L. delegates will be held in the same city to take up matters of first importance to American labor which the convention, engineered by Green and his gang, is expected to sabotage or sidetrack.

The Rank and File Conference is called by the A. F. of L. Committee for Unemployment Insurance, which has received the support of more than 1,000 A. F. of L. locals throughout the country.

More than 100 accredited delegates from A. F. of L. locals from the East and Mid-West will gather at the conference, it was predicted yesterday by Louis Weinstock, National Secretary of the Committee.

One of the main questions on the agenda of the conference will be a Workers' Unemployment Insurance Bill. William Green and other A. F. of L. leaders opposed such a bill at the A. F. of L. convention in Cincinnati in 1932, but mass pressure by A. F. of L. locals forced them to reverse themselves and to give lip-service to such a bill. The same leaders, however, have done nothing whatsoever to further the enactment of such a law by the government, it is charged by the A. F. of L. Committee headed by Weinstock.

Another important question the conference will discuss will be exemption of dues for the unemployed.

In connection with this, the committee calling the conference charges that more than 1,500,000 workers were expelled or suspended from membership in A. F. of L. locals because of inability to pay dues.

A third important question the conference will take up will be the National Industrial Recovery Act, and the traitorous action of William Green and other corrupt A. F. of L. leaders in joining the U. S. Chambers of Commerce, bankers and industrialists in putting over the slave NRA codes.

Arrangements have been made by the committee for food and lodging for the conference delegates in Washington at a low cost.

All A. F. of L. locals are urged to elect their delegates to the conference at once and to send in credentials to the A. F. of L. Committee for Unemployment Insurance, 37 E. 13th St., New York City. The committee also appeals for donations to help cover the cost of this important conference.

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Old Slaughter

Roosevelt Plotted War
n Had War Plans
Recovery Act"

measures prepares for war, and at the same time creates the situation which brings that war nearer. The act itself is modeled on war legislation, seeks to regiment the workers on a war basis, uses all forms of war propaganda, and is led by an experienced General in the last war, General Johnson.

The \$238,000,000 warship expenditure is just a beginning. There is

the NRA is a fizzle and aims to put more burdens on the shoulders of the workers. The unemployed, looking forward to employment, find that instead of production increasing and workers being hired, factories are closing down and the lines of the unemployed are growing.

This, the fifth year of the crisis, will be the bitterest that the workers of this country have ever passed through. Not only will the number of jobless grow, but relief is already being cut. Workers doing relief work will be in direct competition with so-called "free" workers whose wages and conditions will be brought down to that of the relief workers. This is already taking place in various parts of the country. The only safeguard that the unemployed will come through the winter without further hardship; the only safeguard that the workers in the shops working part-time, those fired or laid off because of sickness, accident, old age or maternity, will have, is through Unemployment and Social Insurance.

The Conference for United Action, which was held in Cleveland on Aug. 26-27, recognized this situation and put the struggle for the Workers Unemployment Insurance Bill into the center of its program. The conference adopted the following statement:

"We call upon all unions as well as all unemployed organizations and the working masses as a whole everywhere to initiate, conduct and support a sustained struggle for the enactment for the Workers Unemployment and Social Insurance Bill, making this a part of every local struggle.

Steps To Be Taken

"To this end we propose that:

1. In states where the initiative referendum is provided for, a formal referendum shall be conducted.
2. Where this is not possible we shall conduct struggles supported by a signature campaign to force the state legislatures to enact this bill, pending action by Congress.
3. All city and county government bodies and all individual members of legislative bodies shall be forced to take a stand for, and officially call upon Congress and the state legislatures immediately to enact this Bill."

The Cleveland conference also noted that masses of workers are being discharged without any provision for their welfare. The workers have no savings; NIRA does not guarantee them jobs. They work a few hours, a few days—and then are laid off or fired. The conference therefore declared:

"This national conference of trade unions and unemployed organizations calls upon all workers' bodies to include provisions for unemployment relief in all codes drafted under the NRA or, in cases where practical, in agreements with the employers. These provisions should include a dismissal wage equivalent to one month's wages to be paid each worker by the employer at the time of discharge or lay off, and relief payments by the employer to continue for the duration of unemployment at the rate of— (to be determined in each situation).

"All organizations are called upon to work for the immediate amendment along these lines of all industrial codes already drafted."

Stimulates Activity

These issues face not only the unemployed but also the employed workers. The struggle for the Workers Bill must be stimulated. It is not a fight only of or in the interest of the unemployed workers. It is a struggle for the security of the WHOLE working class.

The Workers Unemployment and Social Insurance Bill is the ONLY bill before the people of this country, affording full protection to the whole working class and putting the burden of providing insurance where it belongs—at the door of the employers and the government. The Cleveland conference unanimously endorsed the bill and now the workers must be mobilized on the basis of the broadest united front to fight for it. In this fight, the Unemployed Councils must take the lead. This is our central task.

Petitions are available, and each organization should get its quota from the National Committee Unemployed Councils, 80 E. 11th St., New York City.