

# STATE POLICE WANTED ONLY BY CAPITALISTS TO CRUSH STRIKES; NEWSPAPER CAMPAIGN EXPOSED

By MANUEL GOMEZ.

(Article I.)

"Protection for all; justice for all." That, we are told by extremely well protested recipients of more than their share of justice, is the idea that suggests to them why Illinois should have a state police force.

It was expressed with all due solemnity at a luncheon given by the Illinois Chamber of Commerce and the Illinois Bankers' association in honor of Major Lynn Adams, superintendent of the state police of Pennsylvania, popularly known as "American cossacks."

But alas, nobody will believe it. Since when, workers want to know, have the chamber of commerce and the bankers' association been interested in justice and protection for all?—let alone Major Adams, whose official protection of workers has been entirely confined to scabs.

## AS WE SEE IT

By T. J. O'FLAHERTY

THE Irish-American politicians, capitalists and clergymen celebrated St. Patrick's day in the usual way. They made speeches, partook of dainty food and prised Ireland and the Irish, that is the Irish that bend the knee to capitalism and conform to capitalism's standard of political morals. The Irish that take their place in the international army of labor are not so good. There are many of those who have indictments hanging over their heads or who are spending the best years of their lives in prison. No bourgeois praise for them.

### Always Are Strike Breakers.

Labor sees the proposed Illinois state police force as a heavy club in the hands of the bosses to be used in breaking strikes. That is what similar police armies have proved to be in every state where they have been created.

The Dunlap bill providing for a state-wide anti-labor constabulary of 195 to 455 armed troopers is being pushed hard for passage in the state legislature. The wealthy capitalists are pouring out their dollars in support of it. Propaganda is on full blast.

Suddenly, in every capitalist news-

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SENATOR KING URGE

# Capitalists Want State Cossacks

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paper thruout the state, there appear editorials, special articles, cooked-up "news stories," all tending to convey the idea that Illinois needs a state police to preserve its people in peace and security.

Are workers people? The whole inspired agitation behind the Dunlap police bill shows that its capitalist sponsors do not think so.

## What Is the Dunlap Bill?

Workers will want to know just what this Dunlap bill is. It bears the same stamp as similar bills being urged in Missouri, Rhode Island, Ohio and other states. It provides for the establishment of a military police force entirely removed from all local responsibility and with power to swoop down upon and invade any community in the state, even against the protest of local authorities.

The force is to be organized on strictly military lines in from three to seven troops officered by captains, lieutenants, sergeants and corporals. The commanding officer, to be known as "superintendent of the Illinois state police," is to be appointed by the governor and may be removed only for certain specific constitutional reasons.

Every individual member of the force is to have full police authority in all parts of the state. He may make arrests and searches upon warrants, and also without warrants. He may arrest any person against whom he may have "suspicion."

Large sums of money have mysteriously accumulated for a systematic publicity campaign in behalf of "more effective policing of rural highways," and some farmers have been misled into believing that the purpose of the Dunlap bill is to furnish rural police protection. Even a casual reading of the bill shows this to be a shabby pretense.

## For Armed Force Against Workers

The Illinois State Federation of Labor exposed the falsehood of their claim some time ago. Instead of providing for a rural police, spread out in the rural communities and permanently stationed in these communities, the bill offers a heavily-armed military force organized for quick mobilization in military units. It is an army for service against the workers.

Proof that the state constabulary is not an innocent rural welfare scheme, but something quite different, is the fact that it did not originate with farmers. Its backers are manufacturers, mining companies, bankers and investment firms. In the forefront of the campaign is the Illinois chamber of commerce, which collected \$100,000 for prosecution of the miners in Herrin.

## Not a Rural Police Body.

Moreover, the proposed military force, which would not number more than 455 officers and men as a maximum, could not under any circumstances be sufficient to patrol the approximately 95,000 miles of rural highway in the state. Except in one paragraph where the subject is mentioned in four words having little or no specific meaning, the bill does not provide for rural highway patrolling. But there is plenty in the bill permitting the constabulary to be thrown into industrial communities and mining towns when a strike is on.

The claim that the state constabulary would be a simple rural police for farm and highway protection is absolutely false. The main purpose in establishing any highly centralized state police force anywhere in the world has been to enforce upon the working people of local communities conditions to which those people were opposed.

## Not Intended to Prevent Crime.

The primary motive in the organization of any such state police system has never been that of "preventing crime" or apprehending "ordinary criminals." No single exception to this can be produced anywhere in the world where a highly centralized state police system has existed sufficiently long to leave something of a history.

## The Cossacks.

It is particularly significant that the guest of honor at the previously mentioned chamber of commerce luncheon was the superintendent of the state police of Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania constabulary has been

the most notorious of all. It originated as an anti-labor militia and from the time of its inception has gone on breaking strikes, clubbing and jailing workers, disrupting labor meetings, breaking up demonstrations.

During the steel strike of 1919, the anti-labor reign of terror of the "American cossacks" was particularly bloody, and was repeated in the 1922 coal strike.

In czarist Russia, mothers used to frighten their children into obedience by admonishing: "The cossacks are coming!" So it is actually today in the industrial and mining regions of Pennsylvania, where the children tremble with fear when they hear the word "constabulary" muttered in their presence.

Unless the Illinois labor movement succeeds in preventing the establishment of an Illinois state police, as it did in 1919 and 1920, the above situation will inevitably be duplicated in Illinois.

## Want Cossacks to Crush Miners.

Miners and other workers in the mining areas will be the first to feel the heavy hand of the cossacks. These, especially are the "rural communities" which big business has in mind. The chamber of commerce, bankers and mine owners have not forgotten Herrin, nor the great fights which the miners have sustained on behalf of their union and a decent standard of living.

What S. Glenn Young and his ku kluxers failed to do, the Illinois cossacks would bend all their energies toward accomplishing: The destruction of the miners' union.

Labor is a unit against the monstrous Dunlap bill for a capitalist-owned state police force. That opposition must be made vociferous and immediately effective. Labor defeated similar bills in 1919 and 1920. It must now make the bosses feel once for all that the workers of this state are determined never to allow any American cossack system to be fastened upon them.

(In the second article of this series, Manuel Gomez will expose the bloody anti-labor record of the famous Pennsylvania state constabulary, which is the model on which the plutocratic interests of Illinois are trying to draw up the Illinois state police force.)

# Another State Goes on Record in Favor of Child Slavery

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has just started publication as a weekly, which enables it to carry on a more active fight than ever before against child labor in America. Besides carrying all the latest news on the progress of the child labor amendment, the weekly Young Worker deals with the problem of child labor realistically, pointing out that the passing of a law regulating child labor will be of no use unless some provision is made for the maintenance of the children who go to work, not because they want to, but in order to support themselves and add to the low earning of the family.

## Big Mass Meeting in Chicago.

The Young Workers League of Chicago is holding a big child labor mass meeting and conference in Chicago on Sunday, March 22, at the Northwest Hall, North and Western Aves., at 8 p. m. Admission is 10 cents and an effort is being made to have local unions and sympathetic organizations send representatives to the meeting as well as urging their members to attend in large numbers. Barney Mass will be the Young Workers League speaker at the meeting and Earl R. Browder, acting secretary of the Workers (Communist) Party will speak on "Child Labor in the United States," stressing the need of an organized fight against child labor on the part of the workers that will have a far different effect than the weak, pacifist fight put up by the liberals and reforms in their effort to "regulate child labor."

## Fifty Hurt in Tunis.

PARIS, March 18.—Fifty were injured but none killed today when seven tons of dynamite on a truck exploded and did considerable damage in a part of Tunis, North Africa.