

Special Convention Number

VOICE OF LABOR WILL APPEAR DAILY DURING
FARMER-LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE

VOICE OF LABOR

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AS WE SEE IT

The Missing Link

Dogs and Men

Rum and Profits

Prohibition and Patriotism

No. 606

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Vol. XI

LABORS' POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE OF CAPITALIST PARTIES MUST BE DECLARED AT HISTORIC CONFERENCE

July 3, 1923, may go down in history as a Red Letter day for the American working class. On this day delegates representing hundreds of thousands of workers from industry and agriculture met to discuss means whereby the forces of the producers of this country can be mobilized under the banner of a party that will appear in the political arena as a unit in the interests of those who with hand and brain produce this nation's wealth.

This conference called on the initiative of the Farmer-Labor Party will represent many shadings of opinion. Points of disagreement will be easy to find. Some may come who will seek to emphasize these points of disagreements rather than the points of agreement. But this paper emphatically asserts, that the interests of the workers can best be served at this conference by seeking a basis upon which the scattered forces of the exploited of this country can join together in a common battle against the common enemy of all workers of all shades of opinion.

The need for independent political action on the part of the workers should need no defenders among those whose eyes and ears are open to the events that daily pile up a mass of evidence in support of this necessity. With the power of government in the hands of the capitalist class, labor's efforts to secure better conditions are rendered futile by the use of the injunction backed by the military arm of the United States government which openly functions as the Executive Committee of the capitalists of this nation.

Labor not being politically organized is unable to offer any effective resistance to the laws passed against it in the legislatures. Depending on the promises of alleged "friends" it has allowed itself to be made the catspaw of treacherous leaders. The time is now ripe for labor to rise to the dignity of its manhood and take its proper place in the political life of this nation.

The representatives of the workers and farmers at this conference are burdened with a heavy responsibility. On their action

will depend whether the workers are going to have political unity now or whether they will have to depend for another period on the quondam "friends" who are strong on promises but short on fulfillment. To all those who will urge the postponement of Labor's independent participation in politics; to all those who may urge the division of Labor's forces, let the conference cry "Labor refuses to be fooled any longer by the lieutenants of capitalism who want to keep the workers tied to the chariot of its exploiters, the time for action has arrived, let us have that unity on the political field which is admittedly indispensable on the industrial field; let us mobilize all organizations of labor regardless of shading of opinion for the prosecution of the fight for our emancipation into a Federated Labor Party."

Such an answer will inspire the workers and working farmers of this country with new hope and will cause fear and trembling in the camp of the enemy.

Another "missing link" has been discovered. Another skull has been added to the row which goes to prove—at least so we are told—that man long, long ago was hanging by his toes to a tree and getting William Jennings Bryan mad by acting in a very monkey-like manner. Perhaps. We should worry. Whenever we feel an uncontrollable curiosity to see what our progenitors looked like we get a photograph of the president of the American Federation of Labor.

There are no Irish members or we should say, members for the South of Ireland in the British House of Commons any more but there is plenty of excitement just the same. Only a few weeks ago a Communist member was suspended for making a disparaging remark about a titled member. A few days ago four laborites were expelled from the sitting and suspended indefinitely for calling the Tories "murderers" because of their action in cutting the estimates for the Scotch board of health, thus endangering the lives of thousands of children. One Scotch member enraged because Shinwell of Glasgow was called a "Jew" by George Hamilton cried out "You white... and coward. Stand up you dirty dog." The "dog" stayed in but the Scotchman went out. Ramsay MacDonald will have a tough time trying to apologize for his unruly associates. They even refuse to wear knee breeches.

Mr. Lasker of the United States Shipping Board may go down in history "weather and other circumstances permitting" as the greatest ranker of them all. One thing is certain he is perfectly on the level with his ships. He tried to sail them wet and failed. Now he wants to sail all other ships dry. But he is no dry sail.

While "Iazy" Instein, the famous prohibition agent was at the height of his glory making the country safe for Volstead, Lasker was busy trying to make the shipping trust rich selling all the booze that was fit to drink on its ships. But the bootlegger vote would not stand for it so Lasker was advised in the interests of the Republican Party to call off his rum hounds.

Next he decided to make all sea going people as sober as the Americans. But that was a little more difficult. The situation is as follows: Rich Americans no matter how patriotic, no matter how many recruiting speeches they made during the war, no matter how many thrift stamps they got other people to buy; take passage on hooch-carrying foreign vessels rather than on non-hooch-carrying American vessels. This would never do. If this was allowed to continue American patriotism would soon be a thing of the past.

The Voice of Labor will be issued daily during the Farmer-Labor Conference, beginning July 3rd. Do not miss it.

Foster Tells of Progressive Committee in Miners' Union

Wm. Z. Foster, Secretary of the Trade Union Educational League, at the last meeting of the Chicago branch of the League held in Wicker Park Hall, reported on the new alignments in the United Mine Workers of America due to the recent conference of the International Progressive Miners Committee in Pittsburgh.

"The definite organization of a clear-cut left wing movement in the U. M. W. of A.," said Foster, "is one of the most important, if not the most important, move that has yet been made towards the complete revolutionizing of the American Labor movement. It has acted like a bright sun in one case at least; for it has dispelled the fog caused by the sham battle between Frank Farrington and Jack Lewis. Both of these are now lined up in a fearful defense against the organized left wing, led by Alec Howat and Thomas Myerscough. Already some of the leaders have been expelled from the union by a decision of the Executive Board which virtually outlawed anyone connected with the Progressive Committee. In Nova Scotia, where the miners are 100% for the Progressives, Lewis has stepped in with a threat against their calling a strike in spite of the fact that the contract has been openly violated by the operators. This is significant when one remembers that John P. White, president of the U. M. W. of A. previous to Lewis, secured the job of president of the Coal Operators Assn. of West Virginia, as soon as he was succeeded by Lewis. The Progressive Committee is determined to rid the miners' union of such corruption once and for all."

The meeting of the League was one of the best attended since its formation a year ago.

The Storm



The Government at Work—the Best Reason for a Labor Party

By JAY LOVESTONE.

Employing Class Uses Government Against Workers and Farmers. George Washington once said: "Government is not reason, it is not eloquence, it is force. . . . Never for a moment should it be left to irresponsible action."

The American workers and farmers have not heeded Washington's advice. They have let the government fall into the hands of the irresponsible, unscrupulous capitalists exploiting the city and rural masses. The close unity between the Stock Exchange and the White House is known to hundreds of thousands of workers and farmers. Through their outright ownership of the dominant parties the employing class owns and controls the government body and soul. Thus, in the 1922 campaign, the Republican-National, Senatorial, and Congressional Committees received openly over \$100,000 from the following ten millionaire employers alone: A. B. Mellin, John D. Rockefeller, L. A. Patten, Wm. Wrigley, Jr., Fred. W. Allen, Fred. Upham, S. R. Guggenheim, Herbert Hoover, Payne Whitney, and Otto Kahn.

The powerful exploiters know that they can't fight victoriously in the class struggle by shaking their aprons at the workers and farmers. They therefore make the fullest possible use of the splendidly organized and highly centralized machinery of oppression—the government—against the producing masses.

Volumes could not adequately describe the recent numerous outrages perpetrated against the workers and farmers by the government. We will cite only a few of the recent experiences and casualties.

Soaking the Farmers.

When the farming masses of North Dakota rose in revolt against the Minneapolis grain gamblers and passed a Grain Grading Act with teeth in it, the Supreme Court, at the behest of the Chicago Board of Trade, declared the law unconstitutional and put the farmers at the mercy of the greedy capitalists.

Out of a total of \$400,000,000 advanced by the War Finance Corporation for aiding the export of agricultural products over three fourths went to banking and financial institutions and live-stock loan companies and other exporters. Only \$97,000,000 went to co-operative marketing organizations representing the farmers.

The Federal Reserve lent money to banks at 5% per cent. These financiers proceeded to lend money to farmers and stockmen at 8 to 10% per cent.

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Many Delegates to Labor Conference Will Visit Local Chicago Picnic on July Fourth

Besides Robert Minor, the internationally known cartoonist other delegates to the labor conference which will begin its sessions on July 3rd are expected to visit the picnic grounds at Chernauskas Grove where the workers of Chicago will make merry on July 4th on the occasion of the second annual picnic of Local Chicago of the Workers Party.

The language sections of the Workers Party are vying with each other as to which shall contribute most to make the day a success from the financial as well as the social point of view.

The exercises already announced in the press in which the Teutonic, Latin and Slav divisions of the human

race will take part are sure to make the day one that will be remembered. There will be games for everybody. Those who are too serious or too old to take part in athletic games can play chess. The Young Workers have challenged all comers to a baseball game and a tug-of-war. They expect to win back the laurels they lost to the T. U. E. L. at a recent picnic.

The Ukrainian and Freiheit Choruses will entertain with singing. Dancing will be enjoyed from 3 P. M. to 9 P. M.

Chernauskas Grove is a beautiful spot on the banks of Desplaines River. To get there take any car to 22 St. and Cicero Ave. and from there take a Lyons Berwyn car to Desplaines River.

Inconsistency of Socialist Party in Declining Invitation to Farmer-Labor Meet Exposed

By J. G. BROWN, Nat. Sec'y Farmer-Labor Party.

Many inquiries have come to the National Office asking why the Socialist Party declined the invitation to send delegates to the Farmer-Labor Party convention, starting in Chicago July 3.

Until June 21 the Farmer-Labor Party was without official information on the subject and could only refer inquiries to the dispatches contained in the press. On the date referred to above the reply of the Socialist Party was received, under date of June 19, and several days after the major portion of the communication had been printed in the New York Call.

The national convention of the Socialist Party appointed a committee to draft a reply and, before adjournment, May 22, approved it. Exactly thirty days later it was received at the national office of the Farmer-Labor Party.

The reply sets forth the belief that unless the active support of a major-

ity of the great trade unions of the country can be enlisted, the effort to form a powerful political party would be disappointing. It assumed that this was lacking, but did not feel disposed to accept an invitation carrying with it absolutely no obligations to send delegates to learn if its assumption was correct. The reply states, too, that the Socialist Party has decided to continue its affiliation with the Conference for Progressive Political Action, and appears to believe this will lead the big labor organizations into a movement for independent political action. The Socialist Party is somewhat more cautious than some of the other bodies affiliated with the Conference for Progressive Political Action. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, for instance, does not state that it will be bound by the conclusions reached by the Farmer-Labor Party convention, but is willing to send delegates, learn what happens and then be in a position to state its attitude intelligently and with a full knowledge of the facts.

The action of the Socialist Party has been a disappointment to the Farmer-Labor Party. It felt the Socialist Party would be the last group to refuse. No obligation was exacted in advance, no expense was entailed, no pledge to abide by the findings was required.

It is possible the big unions might be moved to declare for a Labor Party if those already committed to the idea could demonstrate their ability to unite and act together to some extent.

To profess a desire for unity and then refuse to discuss means of achieving it is not a very consistent attitude. To withhold lending a communication for thirty days was discourteous; to publish the letter before mailing it was to capitalize the discourtesy.

The Socialist Labor Party and the

(Continued on page 2.)

Defense of Labors' Rights is Duty of Labors' Political Party

By HARRISON GEORGE.

(This is the first of a series of five articles on the Michigan Communist case, which will appear daily in the Voice of Labor during the Farmer-Labor Party Conference. The Michigan persecution is one of the most brazen attempts ever made in this country to rob the workers of the right of free speech and suppress freedom of assembly.—Ed.)

"We need not dispute; we need not prove; we need but to define," said Cardinal Newman. Nothing is more true than this, saying applied to any one of the many cases wherein labor's leaders and militants have suffered and are suffering the hell of prison for principles and organizations in which they believe. We need but to define the cases of Mooney and Billings, Sacco and Vanzetti, of the political prisoners rotting behind the walls of Leavenworth, of the Communists arrested in Michigan last year at their convention, West Virginia, Pittsburg, or any of the new cases the infamous Department of Daugherty begins against labor men, to see that each such case is political in nature, that the combined force of capitalism, striking through a servile and hypocritical governmental administration, is aiming a blow at the heart of labor; a blow which should be, which could be and we hope will be, met with the combined resistance of labor by action upon both the industrial and the political

Until recently such combined action has been desultory, haphazard, or lacking entirely. How this condition is changing, and why; and how and why labor must increase and combine its forces for defense, are the subjects of five articles I have been asked to write, as one who knows the inside of prison, for the Labor Defense Council, the defense organization best representing the whole field of progressive American labor, the unions, the political parties of labor and groups of liberal sympathizers.

On Sept. 1, 1922, while seeking the notorious Wilkerson injunction against the railway shopmen, the unspeakable Daugherty said, "I will use the power of the government to prevent labor unions from destroying the open shop." This declaration of war upon labor unions was made six days after the arrest of W. Z. Foster and Earl Browder at the convention of the Trade Union Educational League in Chicago, and within ten

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International Picnic July 4th
CHERNAUSKAS GROVE
WORKERS PARTY OF CHICAGO
BOB MINOR, Speaker
Ticket in Advance 25¢ at Gate 50¢ (tax included)



Editorial Page of the Voice of Labor



The World Court

President Harding is on a vote making expedition, which will bring him to far Alaska. He does not devote all his time to speaking. He plays golf, kisses children and visits the churches of the dominant religious elements in whatever community he finds himself. While in Utah he threw business to the winds and explored the mysteries of Mormonism. This shows that he is a liberal man and believes that one vote is just as good as another.

Harding hopes to succeed himself in the White House. He may. The president has been a pronounced success. He has obeyed his masters implicitly. Since he got into office by kicking poor Woodrow's League of Nations in the solar plexus, he has gradually wormed his way into entangling alliance for which the bankers have an insatiable appetite, and he is now engaged, at the instigation of the bankers, in slipping the League of Nations into a World Court uniform and passing it over on the voters as a symbol of George Washington's message.

The American bankers must be on the inside of the international financial caucus that makes the commercial world go around. They are already in on it, but somewhat in the manner of bootleggers. They must wear a disguise. They would carry more weight if they could saunter boldly in, rattling the United States saber. It would carry more conviction. The American ruling class, however, are not all united on this question of joining an international court or a League of Nations. The interests of some of them do not require it. So they exhume George Washington and hurl his "immortal message" at the pioneer who tries to blaze the path into the capitalist international for the bankers. But they will soon discover that the United States government, the executive committee of the capitalists who rule this country, cannot keep out of entangling alliances because the international blood suckers, who now rule all countries except Russia, in the interests of the few with blood and iron, must come together and agree on a division of spoils, else there would be perpetual war and anarchy. When they realize that George Washington will keep his mouth shut about entangling alliances.

If Harding cannot put the League of Nations camouflaged as the World Court across, somebody else will. The bankers generally have their own way sooner or later. They are few, but are well organized. They are represented politically by the Republican and Democratic parties. Industrially by the chambers of commerce. If the workers, who are in an overwhelming majority, hope to meet them successfully they must have a Federated Labor Party, under the banner of which all factions of workers can unite, and industrial unions to meet the bosses on the job. Until they do this, the bankers will rule and they will find plenty of puppets, like Harding, to do their bidding.

The U. S. Steel Corporation has netted profits of \$45,000,000 during the past three months, and the estimated dividends to be paid after depreciation and interest charges are deducted will be about \$4 a share for the 5,033,025 shares of common stock which will make the dividends earned by the twelve-hour-day amount to six dollars per share during the past six months. The Republic Iron and Steel Company will do even better, as it is expected that it will be able to pay a dividend of \$5 out of past three months profits, making its six months record \$9 dividend per share on its 3,000,000 shares. God helps those who help themselves!

Still Unrepentant

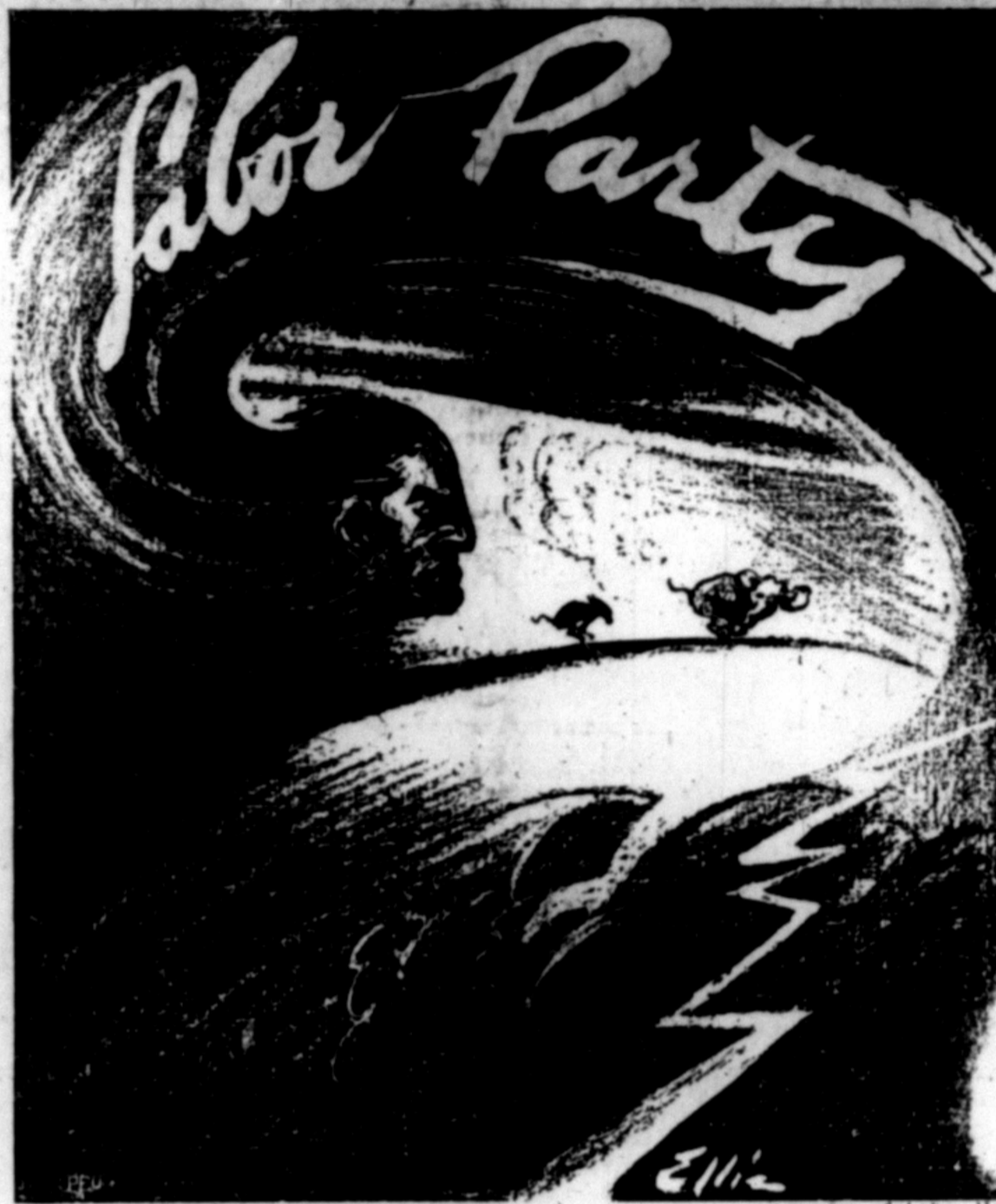
The labor movement in Europe has not yet decided to change its evil course, nor has it purchased an outfit of sackcloth and ashes and wept like Jeremiah for its past sins. Therefore the Executive Committee of the American Federation of Labor looks upon it as unclean and unapproachable. What sin is the European labor movement guilty of?

In our opinion it is guilty of the crime of failing to stand true to the class struggle and by its action during the world war was guilty of smashing the international front of the working class thus allowed the workers to be pitted against each other in a war which was not of their making and out of which nothing could come to them but ruin. And since the war the reactionary leaders of the European labor movement have collaborated with the capitalist rulers and failed to call for a united front against the capitalist enemy, with the result that today labor is demoralized and threatened with disaster.

Is Gompers critical of European labor because it has not vigorously waged the class struggle? Is he angry because it participated with the capitalists in the world war and placed patriotism ("the last refuge of the scoundrel," as Samuel Johnson termed it) above the interests of the workers of all countries? No indeed. The capitalist poodle dog who, during the carnage, traveled as the errand boy of the American money kings, kneeled before King George of England in Buckingham Palace and scratched the backs of the mighty, denounces European labor because they have not completely repudiated the class struggle, because the leaders still give lip service to it, while Gompers claims there are no classes and therefore to speak of class struggle is sinful.

What aroused the old fossil's ire particularly is a joint agreement recently entered into by the leaders of the Transport Workers affiliated with the Amsterdam International and those allied with the Red International of Labor Unions with headquarters in Moscow. These men realize the necessity of a united front against the growing dangers that threaten to overwhelm the workers and were able to find points of agreement on which they could unite to fight against the perils of another capitalist war, the rising menace of Fascism and for the defense of Soviet Russia. This latter was the point that most severely pained the reactionary soul of Gompers. The associate of Judge Gary in the National Civil Federation, the sham battler against the capitalists, the fake labor leader will forgive most anything else but friendship for the first Workers' Republic in the history of the world. Had this powerful section of European labor formed a united front with the royal families of Europe against Communism, no doubt

Keep Them on the Run



(Courtesy of Labor Herald.)

Gompers would invite them to his bosom and kill the fatted calf in honor of their return.

Mr. Schwab has merged the lead and zinc mines, owned by the Tom L. Mining Company, the Chubb Mining Company and the Quapaw Mining Company, all operating in Oklahoma. Mr. Schwab was formerly principal owner and stock holder in the Quapaw Mining Company. And so the merger goes on. Banks, railroads, packing industries, copper mining interests, oil, textile mills and mines. Labor should follow the example of capital and amalgamate its forces.

According to Babson, the strike situation for the week ending June 19 was: New England state, 14; Central states, 36; South-Middle West, 6; Rockies and Coast, 5. 12 were in the building trades, 1 civic employees, 5 clothing, millinery and laundry, 5 food, beverage and tobacco, 8 fur, leather and rubber goods, 6 metal trades, 7 mines and mining, 3 textiles, 7 transportation, 10 miscellaneous.

To All F. S. R. Workers!

It has come to our attention that there is a rumor current among the comrades that Russia no longer needs our support and in many locals the best workers have laid down on the job.

Well-intentioned comrades are picking up this rumor and making it the basis of their refusal to co-operate with us in this tractor drive and in arranging dates for the movie.

We cannot express emphatically enough the dangers of such an attitude toward Russia.

RUSSIA IS BY NO MEANS OUT OF DANGER. EVERY DAY BRINGS ADDITIONAL PROOF THAT THE ENEMY IS READY TO POUNCE UPON HER AT THE VERY FIRST OPPORTUNITY.

Laying down on the F. S. R. job is tantamount to helping the enemy. For it is only the fear of what the workers of the world will say and do that keeps the enemy from breaking in Russia's door.

Only the other day the British ex-spy declared before the Chicago Association of Commerce:

"Bolshevism is in Russia to stay unless outside nations interfere and break it up with a FOOD AND OTHER BLOCKADE."

The inference is quite clear. And the voice is not that of the insignificant individual who made it, but the voice of WORLD IMPERIALISM.

ARE YOU GOING TO STAND BY IDLY? OR ARE YOU GOING TO REDOUBLE YOUR ENERGIES IN BEHALF OF THE RUSSIAN WORK AND MAKE AS BIG A NOISE ABOUT IT AS POSSIBLE?

Let us shout our message from the housetops. Let us not rest until we have enlisted the interest and assistance of every farmer and union man and woman in the country!

COMRADES! DANGER IS NEAR RUSSIA. BEWARE! BEWARE!

Fraternally yours,

FRIENDS OF SOVIET RUSSIA.

Rose Karsner,
National Sec'y.

Labor Head Is Detroit Choice for Tractor Candidate

By CYRIL LAMBKIN

This is a special appeal to comrades and sympathizers to get into the F. S. R. Tractor Drive and to cast their votes for Detroit's candidate, John T. Taylor, President of the Detroit Federation of Labor. The Detroit Relief Conference for Soviet Russia is determined that the drive must be made a success, and that its candidate shall win. It is so earnest about this matter that it elected the writer of these lines special campaign manager for this Drive. He is willing to stake his reputation on the outcome. He knows that John Taylor will be one of the winners, but he is not satisfied with merely having him win. What he and the conference want is a vote so big that it will be the talk of the labor movement for years to come.

President John T. Taylor was sympathetic to the Russian Revolution from the moment Kevensky was hot-footing it from Petrograd just a few pages ahead of the advancing victorious workers and soldiers of Russia. He realizes that the Russian Revolution is the most important phase of labor's struggle for emancipation, at the present time.

We of Detroit who know Taylor are happy that he has accepted the candidacy and will go to Russia. For we feel that it is a privilege to be instrumental in having the president of one of the most important central bodies in America visit Russia and judge for himself the accomplishments of the revolution. John T. Taylor, who is an intelligent progressive trade unionist, possessing historical vision, is also honest and fearless, and he will not hesitate to give, on his return, a true account of the things he has seen.

Every comrade who wants to prove that he realizes the significance of the president of the Detroit Federation of Labor going to Russia can do so by joining in our campaign. The campaign manager wishes to hear from such comrades. Write to Cyril Lambkin, House of the Masses, 2101 Gratiot Ave., Detroit, Michigan.

DAWES' FASCISTI GROWING.
CHICAGO.—The Minute Men of the Constitution have reached Chicago from the suburbs. The 300 members of the Advertising Men's post of the American legion have joined the new organization. Gen. Charles G. Dawes, its founder, now claims for this newest organization of 100 percents a total membership of 23,000, divided into 22 "companies," mostly "in the outskirts of the city."

EUROPEAN TRANSPORT WORKERS IN UNITED FRONT

By A. LOZOVSKY
Sec. of Red International of Labor Unions.

While in Hamburg the Socialist Congress was proceeding, accompanied by the wildest agitation against Communism and social revolution, in Berlin, there met the conference of the Transport Workers, participated in by representatives of the R. I. L. U. and of organizations affiliated to the Amsterdam International. Hamburg was the rendezvous for the drawing room coalition ministers of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, whose greatest anxiety was the concealment of their nationalist and imperialist antagonism. Berlin was the meeting place of the leaders of the transport workers of all countries, convened with the sincere and honorable intention of finding a common basis of understanding among the workers of different parties. In Hamburg, all participants were permeated with the idea of supporting to their utmost that which has been happily termed by the unhappy child of Menshevism, Abramovitch, "democratic capitalism." Here in Berlin "democratic capitalism" was not talked about, the question dealt with was how best to gather together the scattered masses, for self-defense against the growing capitalist and democratic reaction. On one side a congress where Left and Right combine on the basis of co-operation of the classes, and on the other side, a conference resulting in an understanding for the purpose of united revolutionary class war. And although many hundreds of people took part in the Hamburg congress, including many ministers, while in Berlin it was but a modest gathering, attended by 9 persons in all, not one of whom was a bourgeois minister, still the Berlin conference was of much greater significance for the working class than the empty cackling of the Hamburg gossamer. What is the real import of the Hamburg congress? The strengthening of the coalition policy, the sanctioning of working unity among the classes, and thus the widening of the chasm within the labor movement. And what is the import of the Berlin consultation? The extension of the anti-capitalist front, the consolidation of proletarian positions, and a stride forward towards the restoration of unity in the labor movement on the basis of revolutionary class war. And thus the Hamburg congress will be recorded in the history of the working class as a stage of that organizational process which confirms the influence of the bourgeoisie over one part of the proletariat, while the Berlin conference, on the other hand, will be recorded as a stage on the road to the emancipation of ever enlarging sections of the working class from reformist ideology and reformist practice.

Communists for United Front.

The antagonists of the Communist International and of the Red International of Labor Unions have often, in speech and writing, declared that the United Front slogan issued by us is nothing more than an empty pretext, as the Communists do not sincerely want a united front. Various French hole-and-corner journalists have been particularly active in spreading themselves over this theme. In many countries we have replied to this demagogic by deeds. Now we can reply with a new international proof. If anyone asks what our United Front signifies, we reply: Read with attention the resolutions conference and you will find the answer to this question. But now we put a few questions to our opponents: Can you find in these resolutions, passed by us, anything with which any workman can disagree? Perhaps the war against war? The struggle against Fascism? The defense of Soviet Russia? The creation of organs intended to carry on the struggle against militarist reaction on international lines? Or perhaps the desire of the conference, to overcome the trade union split as rapidly as possible, is unacceptable? We are fully convinced that no worker can contest any one of the points of our resolutions. But now the reformist leaders are doubtless expressing themselves as opposed to these resolutions, for they prefer coalition with the bourgeoisie to coalition with the Communists. This idea appears through all the speeches and actions of the conveners of the Hamburg congress. The reply received by the International Committee of Action against war danger and Fascism, to its ap-

peal for the formation of a united front, signified: Rather with the bourgeoisie against the communists than with the communists against the bourgeoisie! The International Transport Workers' Federation rejects this formula, and declared: Rather with the communists against the bourgeoisie, than with the bourgeoisie against the communists. And here lies the historical import of the unity conference of the transport workers.

Differences Still Remain

Neither of the two parties, the agreement is a victim to a delusion: both parties are fully aware of the difficulty of maintaining unity of action in the present disunited state of the labor movement. Both parties grasped that the fundamental and political differences of opinion existing within the trade union movement are not to be overcome by the joint signing of some few resolutions, but that various opinions and ideas will continue to combat one another. The united front does not wipe out differences of opinion, but it paves the way for bringing the scattered trade unions together, and creates—on the basis of common action—that mutual confidence which is indispensable in a struggle against a common enemy. We, the followers of the Red International of Labor Unions, take our obligations very seriously. We shall fulfill them loyally, and naturally we expect the same from the International Transport Workers' Federation, which signed the agreement with us. All trade unions belonging to the Red International of Labor Unions especially the Russian trade unions, have frequently mooted the question of their admittance into the international craft unions. They have invariably been refused. When international capital blockaded Soviet Russia, international reformism carried on a blockade against the revolutionary trade unions of Russia. The goal aimed at by international reformism has not been attained; the working masses of Europe have proved themselves to possess so much class feeling and comprehension of their own interests that they have taken up the defense of Soviet Russia, and of the trade unions created by the Russian proletariat.

For Deeper Understanding.

Where will this understanding among the transport workers lead us? We should like to see it spread as rapidly as possible to every branch of production. We shall work systematically and thoroughly for the amalgamation of the parallel trade unions in all countries. We shall continue repeatedly to propose joint action to the Amsterdam International and to all international secretariats. The interests of the international proletariat demand this. And woe to those leaders of the labor movement who do not grasp this!

Unity with Capitalists Repudiated.

Slowly and painfully the united front of the working class is born. As the roots of the schism in the working class lie in the policy of working unity with the bourgeoisie, the schism is overcome in proportion as the broad masses of the workers, and the organizations created them, throw over this policy. One thing is beyond all doubt: the unity of the working class can only originate in the struggle against the bourgeoisie, and as the conference held by the transport workers set itself the task of combatting the bourgeoisie, it thus at the same time created the premises for the unity of the transport workers of all countries. This conference proved the vitality of the united front, and hence I close my remarks by repeating the declaration which I made at the Hague International Conference: "Whether you want it or not—the united front will come about. It will come about with you if you like, without you if you stand aside and against you if you offer resistance."

Berlin, May 26, 1925.

—A. Lozovsky.

A SMALL WAGE INCREASE FOR FINNISH WORKERS.

BERLIN.—The Finnish Federation of Trade Unions now numbers 48,176 members, of whom 8,714 are women. In 1922 the membership decreased by 413.

The average wage of the male worker in Finland has risen from 5.62 to 6.94 Finnish marks, and that of the female worker from 3.15 to 3.15 marks.