

As from
this hour
you use your
power,
The World
must follow
you

THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER

Official Organ of Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO
MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 1328 SECOND STREET NORTH

Stand all as
one
Till right
is done!
Believe and
dare and do!

VOL. 1, NO. 19

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1941

FIVE CENTS

FBI Story of Union Defense Guard Proved False

Miners Strike Holds Despite FDR Threats

Roosevelt Deliberately Unleashes Lynch Spirit Campaign Against Striking Miners and CIO; But Undaunted Labor Stands Firm Behind UMW While Strikers Tie Up Mines

Despite the extensive anti-labor propaganda campaign unleashed by the Steel Trust, President Roosevelt and the daily press, the scheduled strike of the 53,000 miners in the captive mines owned by the steel corporations was launched Monday morning, with complete effectiveness.

The immediate issue in the strike is the miners' demand for a union shop, already won by 400,000 commercial miners, but denied the 53,000 captive miners.

The broader and really fundamental issue in the strike, however, is the very right of labor to exercise its economic power, to strike. It is this fundamental issue, forced upon the United Mine Workers by the bosses and Roosevelt, that has won for the miners the unanimous support of the CIO convention and the nation's labor movement.

In the face of news that Roosevelt, commander-in-chief of the United States Army, has mobilized 50,000 troops "prepared down to the last detail" to break the strike, miners marched out as one man on Monday.

Sympathy Strikes Grow

As anti-labor pressure on the strikers mounted, their brothers in the nation's commercial mines rallied to their support by walking out in sympathy strike. By

Text of CIO Resolution Backing Miners to the End

One of the first acts of the five hundred delegates to the national CIO convention in Detroit was to approve the resolution adopted unanimously by the CIO national executive board to "approve and pledge our unqualified support to the United Mine Workers of America in its logical effort to stabilize the mining industry on the basis of a union shop, uniform agreement, covering commercial and captive mines . . ."

Excerpts from the resolution backing the miners in their fight against the Steel Trust follow:

"WHEREAS, 1. the United Mine Workers of America are engaged in a struggle with the captive mine owners composed principally of the large steel units in an effort to secure the application of a uniform union shop agreement; and

"2. Ninety-five per cent of the industry, including many captive mine operators, have accepted, signed and are operating under the terms of this standard agreement . . . and

"3. Over 95 per cent of the employees of these recalcitrant steel units in the coal industry are members of the United Mine Workers of America; and

"4. The UMW in convention assembled has instructed its officers to have the same uniform agreement applied to the entire industry; and

"5. The attitude of these large steel units, where profits under the defense program are enormous, can be properly classified as un-American and not conducive to the best interests of the defense program; and

"6. We believe that the cause of the UMW is just, fair and reasonable and the officers and members of this union are to be commended highly for their example of fortitude and fidelity to the cause of labor; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED: By the executive board of the Congress of Industrial Organizations that we approve and pledge our unqualified support to the UMW in its logical effort to stabilize the mining industry on the basis of a union shop . . ."

Thursday night over 100,000 miners were already out in sympathy with the 53,000 captive miners, and it is believed that by the week's end the 400,000 commercial

miners of the nation will be on strike to support the miners' demand for a union shop in the mines owned by the steel corporations.

Anti-labor violence against the strikers flared into the open on the second day of the strike when two pickets were shot and wounded by company gunmen at Gary, West Virginia. Wednesday three more strikers were shot in Fayette county, Pennsylvania.

Brass Hats Eager to Break Strike

Thursday the Associated Press reported that "Army and navy officials are in favor of using troops immediately, but caution is being urged by some who believe employment of the army would only serve to unify the miners."

When informed of the President's plans to use the army as a strike-breaking instrument, John L. Lewis calmly replied that "if the soldiers come, the mine workers will remain peacefully in their homes, conscious of the fact that bayonets in coal mines will not produce coal."

CIO Convention for Strike

CIO President Philip Murray, speaking at the CIO national convention on the same subject, stated that "Naturally, the CIO is bound to make objection to the use of the army to shackle or force labor."

The strike of the captive mines has received the unanimous approval of the CIO executive committee and of the fourth convention of the CIO, meeting in Detroit. The position of the United Mine Workers is so obviously just that even the followers of Sidney Hillman and the Stalinists were forced to go along in approving the strike.

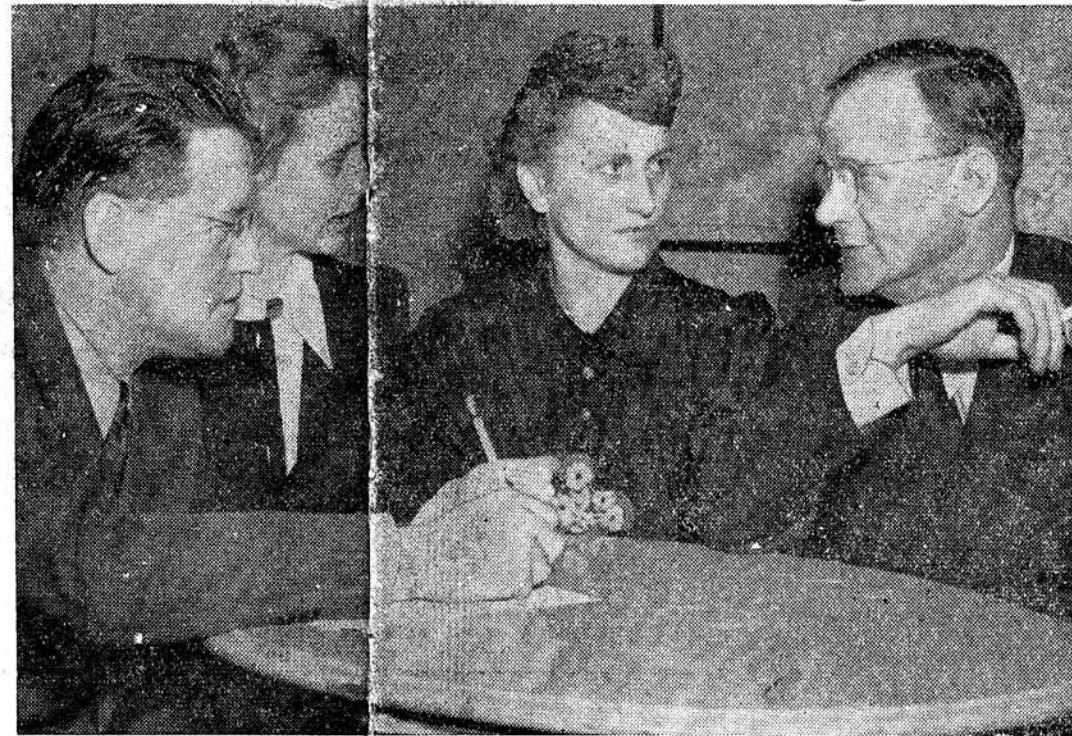
Only voice raised against the strike was that of Michael Quill, who suggested that six CIO vice-presidents be sent by the convention to Washington to aid Roosevelt in ending the strike. Quill's motion was stepped on hard by CIO President Murray, who properly characterized the motion as designed to indicate that the convention was not united in support of the union-shop demand.

Lewis Report Is Cheered

The report of John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, received a roar of cheers from the 200 members of the union Policy Committee as they unanimously approved the strike.

" . . . Obviously the steel companies believed that all they had to do was to maintain

They're Still In the Fight



Courtesy Minneapolis Star Journal

Organizer Walter Hagstrom and Vice-President George Frosig of Local 544-CIO are seen discussing plans for the defense with Rose Seiler and Dorothy Schultz, wife of 544 Organizer Henry Schultz. These four and Nick Wagner were released for lack of evidence and are now devoting themselves to the fight to free the other 23 defendants in the "sedition" trial. They fear that release of the five only means clearing the decks to railroad to jail the 23. But even if the 23 are found guilty, these and other union brothers will fight the case all the way to the U. S. Supreme Court.

IBT Area Committee Yields to NDMB

Packed With Incompetent Tobin Agents, Area Committee Surrenders Strike Weapon and Leans on Mediation Board; CIO Industrial Unionism Is Needed by Over-Road Drivers

By FARRELL DOBBS

The Tobin-dominated 11-State Area Committee abdicated last Saturday all rights to leadership of the midwest over-the-road truck drivers. After having announced a "final" offer to the employers on Wednesday with a call for strike action if an agreement was not signed by November 15 (the date the existing contract expired), the committee three days later surrendered the controversy to government arbitration.

Joseph L. Keenan, OPM representative, entered the negotiations after the Tobin "ultimatum" and emerged a few hours later to announce that the union committee and the bosses had agreed to refer all unsettled issues of wages and working conditions to the National Defense Mediation Board AND TO ABIDE BY THE BOARD'S DECISION. Keenan said the drivers would continue work under the present contract with the final terms decided by the Mediation Board to be retroactive to November 16.

The dispute involves approximately 250,000 men employed by 800 truck operators. The main demands of the union committee called for an increase in mileage rates to 5 cents per mile and a raise in the pickup and delivery rate to \$1 per hour. The old scales were 3 cents per mile and 80 cents per hour respectively.

The employers refused to grant any increase whatever on the mileage rate and offered an increase of only 2 1/2 cents per hour on the pickup and delivery scale.

The 11-State area includes Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Nebraska.

The official statement of the Tobin committee piously announced that it agreed to hold off any work stoppage "at the request of government officials and in the spirit of aiding national defense."

It added also that the union committee had been seeking federal intervention.

Bosses on Offensive

The chairman of the employers area committee, J. L. Keeshin, was not so timid as the Tobin agents. "Let them strike," Keeshin told the newspaper reporters, "so that strikes may be ended forever."

This employer spokesman was not concerned with the "spirit of aiding national defense." He was thinking about North American Aircraft, Bendix, and the army spies being sent into the captive coal mine areas; he was thinking about getting Roosevelt to call out the army against the truck drivers "so that strikes may be ended forever." Keeshin was contemptuous of the timid union leadership which was begging him for concessions in order to save its face before the rank and file.

Drivers Press Tobin

The Tobin committee finds itself on the horns of a dilemma. The truck drivers are pressing hard for improvements in wages and working conditions. Sharply rising prices and heavy taxation are cutting deeply into the standard of living of the workers. It is imperative that they receive wage in-

creases, and they cannot meet their needs with small crumbs.

The Tobin agents, already in bad odor among the drivers, were thus put right up against the gun. A decree from Tobin in Indianapolis ordering the men to cease and desist would not settle this question. There is already strong CIO sentiment among the drivers. Failure to go through the motions of getting the men something would result in an immediate sweep toward the CIO.

But Tobin could get absolutely no concessions from the employers, and he is just as afraid of a strike as he is of the CIO. One sharp word from Roosevelt and Tobin quickly brought the strike of the Detroit railway express drivers to an ignominious end. The Tobin machine is too deeply indebted to Roosevelt for the FBI attack on 544-CIO, and too dubious of its ability to lead a strike, to risk a fight with the over-the-road employers.

Tobin Banks on FDR

Therefore, the AFL Teamsters area committee could think of nothing except to lean on Roosevelt. They and Tobin surrendered the drivers' only economic weapon, the right to strike, in return for compulsory arbitration in a desperate attempt to maintain Tobin's dues collections.

The heavy price which the drivers will pay for this criminal maneuver is only insofar as it may cause revolt against their dictatorial methods. It is Tobin's hope that with a few crumbs for the drivers

(Continued on page 2)

Dobbs Led Road Drivers to Unions

EDITOR'S NOTE: No man in the country is better qualified to write on the problems of the over-road drivers than Farrell Dobbs. He was the leader of the North Central Drivers Council founded in 1937 to organize the over-road drivers, then almost entirely unorganized. He became the Secretary of the 11-state Area Committee of truck drivers unions which organized some 200,000 over-road drivers in the North Central Area. He successfully negotiated their first area-wide contract in 1938. His leading role among the over-road drivers was so unquestionable that Daniel J. Tobin had to appoint him as International Organizer in charge of this work, and Dobbs successfully negotiated the second area-wide contract on November 15, 1939—the contract which has just expired. Dobbs resigned that office in 1940, when Tobin tried to get him to sell out the Kansas City cab drivers. Now, as the story above tells, Tobin's nincompoops have gone far toward undermining the conditions which Dobbs and Local 544 won for the over-road drivers.

Use of Guard In '29 Shown By Defense

Defense Guard Existed 12 Years Ago To Save Meetings From Stalin Thugs; Three Union Men Freed By Defense Motion for Dismissal

The prosecution's efforts to paint Local 544's Union Defense Guard as a revolutionary conspiracy instigated by Leon Trotsky in 1938 to overthrow the government by force, exploded into a dozen pieces Wednesday under the testimony of the first defense witness, James P. Cannon.

Cannon, one of the defendants, and a participant in the militant labor movement for thirty years, told the court that he had known of labor defense guards since 1911.

Then, while the prosecutors glumly watched, he read from a 1929 file of THE MILITANT, Trotskyist paper edited by him, a dozen news-stories reporting how workers' defense guards were formed in Minneapolis and in several Eastern cities twelve years ago, to defend workers' meetings against the attack of Stalinist hoodlums sent by the Communist Party to break up the meetings.

Relating how the depression of 1937-38 had caused a sharp increase in the activity of such fascist organizations as the Silver Shirts, the Bund, and the Christian Front, Mr. Cannon told how workers' groups in many parts of the country had found it necessary to form defense guards to defend their meetings against the fascists. He told how several New York unions, including a local of the International Ladies' Garment Workers, which passed a resolution for guards, had publicly discussed the need for union defense guards.

Unions Need Defense Guards

With the advent of the European war and the war boom, fascist activity subsided, and with it labor's immediate need to defend itself against the anti-labor vigilantes, Cannon explained.

While effectively exposing the prosecution's attempt to portray 544's Union Defense Guard as anything other than the guard actually was, Cannon contended that the American labor movement, to avoid the fate of the unions in Italy and Germany, will find it necessary to form union defense guards to defend labor's rights against the coming fascist movement in America.

The 51-year-old national secretary of the Socialist Workers Party testified Tuesday afternoon and all day Wednesday. Under examination and cross-examination, he frankly explained the basic ideas of the Marxist movement which he has led for many years.

Three Union Leaders Freed

On motion by defense counsel, the court Tuesday dropped charges against five of the 28 defendants. Those freed were George Frosig, Walter Hagstrom, Nick Wagner, Dorothy Schultz and Rose Seiler.

Brother Frosig, vice-president of Local 544-CIO, has served the Minneapolis drivers' union as officer for twenty years. Wagner is trustee of 544-CIO, and Hagstrom is a 544-CIO organizer.

The released defendants immediately announced they would throw themselves into the fight to defend their fellow workers still on trial.

Among defendants to follow Cannon on the witness stand are V. R. Dunne, Farrell Dobbs, and Carl Skoglund, founders of the Minneapolis drivers' movement and leaders of the 1934 drivers' strike that made Minneapolis a union town.

The government closed its case Monday without proving a single one of the charges made by Attorney General Biddle and his assistant, Mr. Schweinhaut, prior to the start of the trial. The prosecution bases its case upon the testimony of two dozen Tobin-paid stoolpigeons; most of the government witnesses perjured themselves, the defense hopes to show. (See other stories, pages 2 and 3)

Biddle Said He'd Prove Local 544 Armed Workers!

Now that the prosecution has completed presentation of its "case" against Local 544-CIO and the Socialist Workers Party, let us recall what U. S. Attorney-General Biddle promised to prove:

In answer to a letter from the American Civil Liberties Union, protesting against the trial as a prosecution of work-class opinions, Biddle wrote on Sept. 4 that the Union Defense Guard was an "overt act," was indeed, "arming workers" to carry out the purpose to which the utterances are addressed and therefore "is clearly sufficient to remove the case from one involving expression of opinion."

BUT WHAT DID THE PROSECUTION DO?

(1) Anderson, in his opening statement, said no proof of an overt act was necessary—i.e., the opinions of the defendants were enough;

(2) The prosecution "proved" what the defense had stated in advance, that the sole "arms" of the Union Defense Guard consisted of two target pistols and two target rifles—the prosecution didn't even try to claim anything more;

(3) Assistant Attorney-General Schweinhaut, in opposing defense motion to dismiss the case, made no bones about it, he was prosecuting the defendants' opinions and nothing else;

(4) Judge Joyce, denying the defense motion, justified that solely by the "defendants' seditious writings."

In short, Biddle's bunk about "arming workers" was just a smokescreen to confuse labor and liberals, while his lieutenants were getting this frameup ready.

Ten More Join Defense Committee

Showing their active support of the defense of the Minneapolis defendants in the Tobin-inspired "sedition" trial, ten more well-known labor leaders and liberals last week joined the national committee of the Civil Rights Defense Committee. The national committee now numbers 48 men and women.

Latest to join the committee are:

- Mark Starr, education director, International Ladies Garment Workers Union, AFL;
- Margaret Marshall, editor of THE NATION;
- Clement Greenberg, editor of PARTISAN REVIEW;
- John Chamberlain, author, editor of FORTUNE;
- Frank Hoellering, author;
- Louis Rath, professor, Ohio State University;
- Sarah T. Colvin, former member, Minnesota State Board of Education;
- Zara duPont, liberal member of the duPont family;
- Gorham Munson, author;
- Mary W. Hillier, secretary, Keep America Out of War Committee.

22 Tobin Agents Were the "Sedition" Trial Witnesses

Tobin Payrollers and Stooges Perjured Themselves to Help Their Master and His Friends of the FBI Railroad Local 544-CIO Leaders to Sixteen-Year Prison Terms

Agents of AFL Teamsters President Tobin furnished the overwhelming bulk of the prosecution "evidence" in the "sedition" trial against leaders of Local 544-CIO and the Socialist Workers Party, study of the government case, now completed, reveals. For months, the INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER has charged that Tobin and the FBI worked hand in hand to destroy 544-CIO. That contention has been proved to the hilt by the very testimony of the government witnesses.

Twenty-two Tobin payrollers and stooges were the witnesses the prosecution relied on to prove the government charge of "conspiracy to overthrow the government by force." We list them:

1. James Bartlett—leader of Tobin's Committee of 99 which has fought the Local 544-CIO leaders all this year. Bartlett is, of course, on Tobin's payroll, as an organizer. He was the main witness.
2. Eugene Williams—member of Committee of 99, and on Tobin's payroll as organizer.
3. Glenn Smith—member of Committee of 99, on Tobin's payroll as a goon.
4. George O'Brien—member of Committee of 99, on Tobin's payroll as organizer.
5. Roy Wienecke—member of Committee of 99, on Tobin's payroll as organizer.
6. Tom McCue—member of Committee of 99, on Tobin's payroll as organizer.
7. Eddie Blixt—on Tobin's payroll as organizer.
8. Sidney Brennan—leader of Committee of 99, on Tobin's payroll as his appointee as secretary-treasurer of "544"-AFL.
9. Henry Harris—member of Committee of 99, body-guard for Tobin organizer Bartlett.
10. Mrs. V. Williams—widow of Tom Williams, Committee of 99 organizer.
11. Joe Williams—brother of Tom Williams, and member of Committee of 99.
12. Elmer Buckingham—member of Committee of 99.
13. Emmanuel Holstein—member of Committee of 99.
14. John Novack—member of Committee of 99, body-guard for Tom Williams, and Tobin goon-squad member.
15. John Majersky—member of Committee of 99.
16. Karl Bath—member of Committee of 99, friend of Tom Williams.
17. Walter Stultz—former president of Omaha Teamsters Local 554-AFL. He and his wife are admittedly on payroll of T. T. Neal, Tobin's receiver for Local 544-AFL.
18. John J. Kenney—member of Committee of 99, brother-in-law of Sidney Brennan.
19. William Henderscheid—member of Committee of 99.
20. Robert Bove—member of Committee of 99.
21. Helen Hanifan—Tobin receiver T. T. Neal's book-keeper in Local "544"-AFL.
22. Harriet Karlen—"544"-AFL stenographer.

of the 22 Tobin payrollers, goons and stool pigeons.

And their evidence? It consisted of snatches of conversation, alleged to have been held with the defendants in saloons, parked automobiles, etc.

These "conversations" almost all date back four or five years and, according to the witnesses, were never held before third parties.

Each Tobin agent invariably made the same charge: that one or more of the defendants managed to get the witness off in a corner and whisper to him that the Socialist Workers Party was preparing an "armed" revolution to overthrow the government.

Apart from the Tobin agents, the rest of the alleged conspiracy is the literature introduced into the record by the prosecution.

Some of this literature are scientific works to be found in almost any public library throughout the country. Among these is the 93-year-old Communist Manifesto of Karl Marx.

Others are Socialist Workers Party books, pamphlets and excerpts from articles written by defendants, all of it to be read in libraries or purchased in bookstores.

All have been on public sale at the SWP headquarters in the Twin Cities many years, and are still on sale there.

That's the case on which the government would convict 23 loyal labor men and women on counts providing up to sixteen-year prison terms!

Of the other witnesses, two were FBI agents and one was an employee of the anti-labor Associated Industries, the name under which the old Citizens' Alliance operates today.

That makes a total of 25 obviously prejudiced witnesses. They were all the government had in the way of a case.

Two Aided Defense

Of the remaining government witnesses, two—Thomas V. Smith and Malcolm Love, former officers of the Omaha Teamsters Local 544-AFL—turned the tables on the prosecution by giving testimony favorable to the defendants. They praised the work of Farrell Dobbs and the officers of Local 544 in organizing and improving the conditions of hundreds of thousands of over-the-road drivers. As former members of the Socialist Workers Party, they categorically denied the government contention that the party advocated the overthrow of the government by force.

The other nine prosecution witnesses were of no importance, testifying to minor details in the government case.

The bulk of the government case, then, rests on the testimony

Federal Mediator Helps AFL Terrorize Negro Workers

How a mediator of the National Defense Mediation Board aided AFL officials to institute a reign of terror and intimidation against 600 Negro track workers on the Florida East Coast Railroad was told recently by President Willard Townsend of the United Transport Service Employees Union in the union paper, BAGS & BAGGAGE.

As a result of the terror campaign, the AFL won the 12-day election over the UTSEA, 410-325. "This 90-vote majority of the AFL Brotherhood represented one of

the most open conspiracies to defeat the letter and the spirit of the Railway Labor Act in an effort to cram Jim-Crow unionism down the throats of Negro workers," union officials charge.

Union Observers Jailed

State law enforcements aided the AFL by imprisoning election observers sent by the United Transport Service Employees to watch the balloting. Police at Ormond, Florida, held both union election observers without charge.

One of the jailed UTSEA election observers, in an affidavit, testified that "The officer told me that he had no charges, but that he had received a telegram from Jacksonville the day before, telling them the hour that we would be in Ormond and that they were to pick us up and hold us. He said that he was just holding us because he could. After showing him my credentials, he told me that I had no business following behind the Mediator and the AFL Brotherhood's observers because they knew what they were doing. He said he would hold us until he got ready to turn us loose. Federal Mediator Noonan and the Brotherhood observers continued on after our arrest and took the votes at the Daytona and Ormond sections. We did not see them until Thursday morning at New Smyrna Beach. (Mediation Board instructions are that elections should be conducted in the presence of observers from all parties concerned.) Mediator Looked Other Way

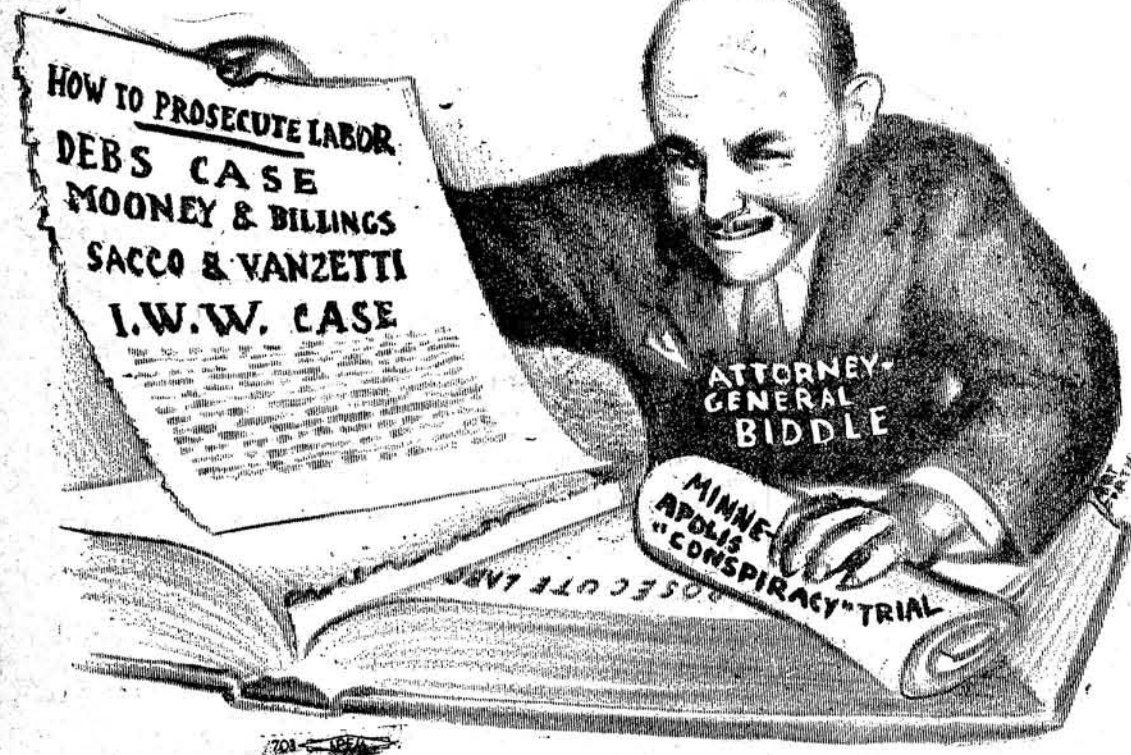
"At New Smyrna Beach, Federal Mediator Noonan claimed that he did not see the arrest. He also claimed that he was not responsible for anything that might happen to the UTSEA observers. He claimed that he would continue on with the election if the observers were not present. He also stated that the track laborers were getting along all right until the UTSEA started organizing them. . . . The police at Ormond held us up long enough for the Mediator to take the votes at Ormond and Daytona sections."

SO SAY OUR PEERLESS LEADERS

In these days of dictators we should use the iron fist to teach patriotism. Children should be taught to respect the flag, with whippings, if necessary.—CHES-TER CANNON, member of the California State Assembly, April, 1939.

ON CAPITALISM
The silent colossal National lie that is the support and confederate of all the tyrannies and inequalities and unfairness that afflict the peoples—that is the one to throw bricks and sermons at.—MARK TWAIN.

A Page From Anti-Labor History



NLRB To Hear 544-CIO Claims At Watermans

The regional office of the National Labor Relations Board will hold a public hearing November 26th at 10 a. m. to determine the collective bargaining agency for sixty workers at the Minneapolis plant of the Waterman-Waterbury company.

The men are solidly organized in Local 544-CIO and the CIO Machinists Union Local 1140, which conducted a successful joint organizing campaign at the plant last summer.

Contesting the right of 544-CIO and Local 1140-CIO to represent the men will be the Tobinized "544"-AFL and Tobin's warehouse union.

In September the national labor board followed Stassen's labor conciliator, Blair, in denying democratic elections to the Minneapolis drivers. By accepting Local 544-CIO's petition at Waterman-Waterbury, the board has taken a step towards recognizing the democratic rights of the Waterman men to select their own union bargaining agent.

Jim Cannon Punctures FBI Tale About Labor Violence

First Defense Witness, Explaining 100-Year-Old Doctrine of Workers and Farmers Government, Shows That Violence Is Bosses' Weapon Against All Sections of Labor

James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, and leading defendant in the "sedition" trial of leaders of Local 544-CIO and the SWP, had been on the witness stand for a day and a half by Wednesday evening. His testimony is a complete refutation of the prosecution charge that the defendants plotted an armed revolution to overthrow the government.

Just as unions are always accused of violence, so the bosses have always charged that the socialists planned to use violence to attain their goal of a Workers' and Farmers' Government. But every worker in the court room knew better when Jim Cannon spoke out.

The dignified 51-year-old leader, veteran of thirty years in the workers' movement, gave the definitive answer to these boss slanders, repeated in this trial by the Tobin goons and stool-pigeons.

Cannon pointed out during direct examination that, just as with most important strikes, so too revolutions are usually accompanied by violence. But as every worker who has been in a strike knows, such violence is instigated solely by the bosses to prevent the workers from exercising their democratic rights.

Asked by defense attorney Goldman who initiates such violence, Cannon answered:

"Always the ruling class; always the out-lived class that doesn't want to leave the stage when the time has come. They want to hang onto their privileges, to reinforce them by violent measures against the rising majority."

Cites the Civil War

Cannon gave examples from American history to prove his contention. In 1861, the reactionary Southern slave-holding class, refusing to abide by majority vote, revolted against the election of Abraham Lincoln. Thus the military violence of the Civil War rather than submit to the decisions of the great majority of the people.

Cannon explained that the Socialist Workers Party would prefer to establish socialism through a peaceful transformation of society. He warned, however, that the boss class would take measures to destroy the workers' movement whenever it became a threat to the bosses' "right" to exploit and enslave the workers.

When asked to specify these anti-labor measures, he referred to discriminating legislation against labor, abrogation of elections, and most important of all, the organization of fascist gangs.

Cannon predicted the American bosses would use fascist thugs against the workers, and said the SWP calls on the workers to be prepared to defend themselves.

Lessons of Europe

The role of the German and the Italian capitalists, in financing the fascist movements of Hitler and Mussolini to break up workers' meetings, destroy the union halls and murder the workers' leaders, was described by Cannon.

Prosecutor Schweinhaut did not dare to challenge these incontestable historical facts.

Cannon predicted the American bosses would use fascist thugs against the workers, and said the SWP calls on the workers to be prepared to defend themselves.

"We advise the workers to bear in mind this use of violence by the bosses and prepare themselves, not to permit the reactionary out-lived minority to frustrate the will of the majority."

Cannon defined socialism as a "society that would be based on the common ownership of the means of production, the abolition of the wage system, the abolition of class divisions in society."

He defined a capitalist government as "a government that is based on the private capitalist ownership of the wealth of the country and the means of production, and representing in general the interests of that class."

Tobin Lies Nailed

The 22 Tobin payrollers and stooges who testified for the government had pictured the defendants as mysterious plotters, conspiring in dark corners to perfect the details of their alleged plan to overthrow the government.

Cannon punctured this comic-opera scenario. Marxian Socialists, he explained, have been legally established as political parties for nearly 100 years. They have always tried to win a majority of the people to their beliefs, as a precondition for the establishment of a Workers' and Farmers' Government.

Truth About Russia

Again the historical truth was brought out to support this contention. Cannon told how the Bolshevik Party of Lenin and Trotsky refused to try to take state power in Russia in 1917 until they had won the support of the people. Prosecutor Schweinhaut once again sat silent as the witness told of the repressions by the capitalist government against the workers' leaders in Russia when the Bolsheviks began to win the masses. Lenin was forced to go into hiding and Trotsky was jailed by the capitalist government in a frameup.

Only in November, 1917, after the Bolsheviks had won decisive majorities in the official organs of the people, the Workers and Soldiers Soviets, and the Peasant Soviets, did they take state power.

Far from hiding its ideas, Cannon explained, the Socialist Workers Party in the United States uses every possible means to publicize its views. Cannon testified that the SWP participated in elections wherever possible and cited a number of cities in which the SWP recently ran candidates for public office. The party publishes a weekly paper, a monthly magazine and has published and distributed dozens of pamphlets.

As defense attorney Goldman said, "A very peculiar kind of conspiracy, indeed!"

THEN AS NOW
Successful crime is dignified by the name of virtue; the good become the slaves of the impious; might makes right; fear silences the power of the law.—SENECA.

ADD BOSSES
Nations themselves have never desired war. The statesmen at the head of governments have always been responsible for bringing about bloody conflicts.—Dr. Karl Von Lewinski.

Friends of Defendants Rally to Help Them

Every day workers come to the commissary at 919 Marquette where the defendants are being fed under the auspices of the Civil Rights Defense Committee armed with food and money they want to donate.

The entire Thanksgiving spread which was served yesterday was donated by willing friends and sympathizers. A florist even donated flowers to make the festive table more decorative.

Last Wednesday a worker, a driver at one of the largest department stores, came in with three pounds of coffee. In about an hour he was back, saying "The boys in the garage want to give something too, and want to know what you need most."

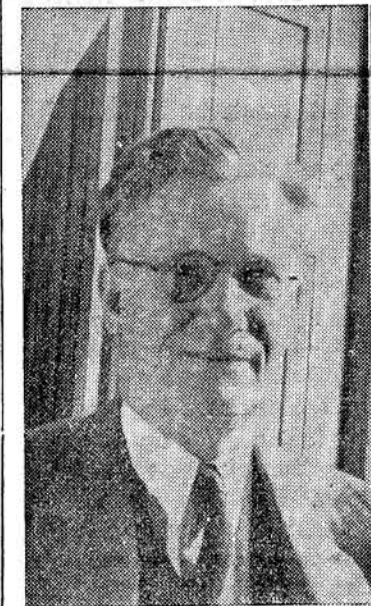
With such support, coming from people whom we know can't afford much, in these days of high taxes and rising prices, the defendants feel that they can't help but win their fight eventually.

ON THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO

As good as to kill a man as kill a good book; who kills a man kills a reasonable creature, God's image; but he who destroys a good book kills reason itself, kills the image of God, as it were, in the eye.—John Milton, Areopagitica.

CONVOYS OR PATROLS

The chief business of statesmen is to find new names for old institutions, which, under their old names, have become odious to the public.—Talleyrand.



James P. Cannon, first defense witness, proved that workers defense guards have been in use, by unions and political minorities to protect them from boss-vigilantes since 1911.

YOU Can Help The Defendants

The twenty-eight men and women who are on trial in the federal courtroom in Minneapolis are front-line fighters in the cause of union rights and civil liberties of this nation.

They merit the whole-hearted and generous moral and material support of every progressive organization and individual genuinely concerned with maintaining our democratic and constitutional rights.

Their fight against the prosecution must be won. That is why the CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE has been organized. Chairman of the Committee is James T. Farrell. Vice chairman is John Dos Passos. Secretary is George Novack. Scores of outstanding laborites, educators, civil liberty defenders, liberals have joined the national board of the CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE.

The government prosecution has been denounced by the CIO, Labor's Non-Partisan League, the United Auto Workers, the American Civil Liberties Union, THE NATION, THE NEW REPUBLIC, etc.

The CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE needs \$7,500 immediately to defray the heavy costs of fighting this case. Aid the 28 defendants by contributing promptly and generously to their Defense Fund. Mail all donations to the

Civil Rights Defense Committee
c-o Industrial Organizer, 1328 Second St. N.
Minneapolis, Minnesota

A receipt will be mailed you from the Industrial Organizer and from the national office of the Civil Rights Defense Committee.

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