

CHICAGO DIMOUT AIMED AT MINERS

With a noisy fanfare the Illinois Commerce Commission has decreed "to curtail the use of electricity" because of the continuing coal strike. On May 2 the Electric companies reported that only a 21 day supply of coal was left to generate electricity. Had it not been for a previous government order restricting power companies to 70% of their usual coal allotment, there would be no immediate shortage for 50 days. It was already obvious that as the coal pile dwindled more and more of Chicago would shut down. This fact 2,000 laid off Carnegie steel workers already knew.

Loudly announced emergency meetings were followed by Mayor Kelly's proclamation of a "state of emergency".

Immediately the I.C.C. has decreed a 40% cut in Chicago's electricity.

Industry is cut to 24 hours of electric power a week.

Taverns, show houses, office buildings and stores cut to a 4 hour, five (To Page 2)

HOUSING SHORTAGE?

John F. Cuneo, Chicago printing magnate, real estate owner, and the holder of the controlling interest in National Tea, Meadowmoor Dairy, etc, etc, must not think so for he has just purchased another mansion, this time with 40 rooms.

When asked what he intended doing with it, he replied nonchalantly that it would be remodeled for his 14 year old daughter. Only forty rooms--poor girl!

ROLLER WORKERS WIN INCREASE IN TAKE-HOME PAY

The Rapid Roller workers of Local 120 of the United Rubber Workers CIO have a right to be proud for they have accomplished what the auto, steel and electrical workers failed to do in their strikes. On April 15, seven months before the expiration of the contract, a new wage agreement went into effect which not only maintained take-home pay but actually increased it.

The average pay was \$1.04 an hour. They now receive \$1.16. Fifty hours pay a week is guaranteed even if the hours are lowered to 46 and in the event that the work-week is reduced to 40 hours a new wage agreement is to be negotiated.

But this victory came as no gift from the company. Years of militancy had made clear that the Rapid Roller workers would fight for what they wanted.

In March of 1939 these workers went out on strike for union recognition and seniority rights. About 180 police or two policemen for each striker were mobilized and two machine guns were mounted on the streets. To usher scabs into the plant, the police drew clubs and guns and beat the pickets back.

But the pickets did not yield to this terror and for over a year kept their lines going. The fight was carried into the Labor Board. In October of 1942 the Board ordered the company to reinstate the workers and a core of them, still (To page 2.)

AT ALL MALEABLE ON MAY DAY...

Dimout Against Miners (from page 1)

day schedule.

a single worker distributing May Day leaflets was backed to a wall by half a dozen attackers. They grabbed the remaining leaflets, threw them into the gutter and chased the lone distributor down the street.

Who would attack a worker distributing a labor holiday announcement? We expect to be attacked by Mayor Kelly's police, or by company hired thugs. But instead, the leader of this hoodlum action was Stanley Solak, president of Local 788 (Ill. Mall.) with some of "his boys".

He stands on the rostrum and rants about his "Americanism", but he uses fascist, hoodlum tactics to deny a worker his right to free speech and free distribution of literature on the street.

It's All So Simple

On April 30, the Dearborn Glass Manufacturing Co. asked the Chicago Superior court for an injunction against their workers picketing the plant. 29 workers have been arrested since April 22 for trying to keep scabs out of the plant.

Two days later the Chicago courts handed down an injunction restraining them from mass picketing. It only took the boss two days!

ROLLER WORKERS

(from Page 1)

holding fast, returned to the plant and succeeded in organizing the non-union workers who had replaced them. June of 1943, the four years struggle was crowned with success as the company yielded to a union shop and seniority agreement and was forced to give out \$235,000 in back pay.

1944 and 1945 were marked by new struggles to improve working conditions and to make up for the steep rise in the cost of living brought on by the war. Now in 1946 another trophy has been won with the increase in take-home pay.

How is this sudden "state of emergency" supposed to effect us workers? As street-car and rail services are curtailed, the cry is raised, "Public safety and health are menaced by the coal miners." This is what the capitalists want us to think.

What is the truth? It is that the more quickly and more completely the coal miners' strike, or any other strike, ties up other industries, the greater chance it has to succeed. What really worries the Chicago boss-class is the tremendous profits they stand to lose during this strike. So, they call upon the government and their entire propoganda machine to show us how we suffer because of the coal strike.

Sections of industry are closely tied up. When steel workers struck, auto plants shut down for example. Everytime

250 to 300 WORKERS . . . gathered to RWL banners and the improvised speaker's stand at Newberry Square on May Day.

We were the only organization to commemorate May Day in this traditional gathering place of Chicago Workers.

this happens the boss' propoganda tell us: "A few workers are causing the majority of us to suffer."

But who is this "great majority"? It is made up of the rest of us workers.

In the case of the miners' strike we workers should look at the issues. In the past 14 years 28,000 miners have been murdered in the mines and there has been more than a million casualties. They are asking for an improvement in safety measures. They are asking for 10¢ per ton royalty as a health & welfare fund to be given them over accident periods. Should they get this? We think so!

Let us take this issue to the floor of our local unions and vote resolutions of solidarity with the miners. Their fight is our fight!