

WESTERN WORKER

WESTERN ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY U.S.A.
[SECTION OF THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL]

Vol. 1, No. 18

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, SEPTEMBER 15, 1932

Price 5 Cents

S.F. GOV'T TO HEAR HUNGER DEMANDS SEPT. 12

Two More Counties Join in Hunger Marches; Alameda March on Sept. 29

FORD TOURS WESTERN CITIES WILL TELL OF HOOVER'S TERROR AGAINST VETS IN WASHINGTON

ANTI-JIM CROW LEADERS FACE DENVER COURT

28 on Trial Demanding Equal Rights for Negroes

DENVER, Col.—The trial of 28 young white and Negro workers arrested in the fight against Jim-Crowism on August 18, is taking place before the notorious anti-labor judge, Pickens.

The prosecution commenced the cases, but after strong objections from Menin, the I. L. D. lawyer, the judge ruled that each will get a separate trial.

The first to be tried is George Kaplan, district secretary of the International Labor Defense. Fully realizing that Judge Pickens' court is a kangaroo court, the defense brought in its own stenographer. The judge and prosecutor objected strenuously, adjourning the trial in the midst of Kaplan's trial. The court re-opened the next day with the city having its own stenographer as well.

The same day that Kaplan's trial started Judge Pickens was informed that six defendants whom he convicted on April 23 were freed on appeal after the county court scored the "disreputable" method in which Pickens runs his court.

The arrests were a result of the fight that took place when hundreds of white and Negro young workers, under the leadership of the Young Communists League, challenged the Jim Crow law that bars Negroes from swimming in the swimming pool at Washington Park.

The I. L. D. calls upon Negroes to get behind this fight for Negro rights and send in protests to Mayor George B. Begole, City Hall, Denver, Colo.

R. R. WORKERS ON ALL LINES FACE BIG WAGE CUT

One Million Workers Are Affected

NEW YORK, Aug. 31.—The railroad executives of most of the railroad systems have definitely declared for a policy, to enforce a 20 per cent wage cut from the existing wage rate. This includes practically all important lines, and will involve about a million workers.

This wage cut, to go into effect at the beginning of 1933, comes shortly after a 10 per cent wage cut, which was put through with the assistance of the leaders of the railroad unions.

In addition to the wage cutting policy, other "economies" are being carried through in the industry. Many trains are taken off the regular schedules, and more powerful locomotives, able to pull longer trains, are being introduced.

Furthermore, there is definite talk for a dictator on the eastern systems and one on the Western lines. This will also cut down the

(Continued on page 3, col. 4)

Negro Organizations Preparing Big Turn Out for Mass Meetings; Will Speak on Communist Platform

WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION WILL HEAR JAMES FORD

State Convention to Nominate Communist Ticket

SEATTLE, Wash.—From all indications the State Nominating Convention, to be held September 13, will be a mass convention of many organizations of workers and farmers. The convention will endorse the national candidates of the Communist Party, Foster and Ford, and will nominate a state ticket.

The high point of the convention will be when James Ford, vice-presidential candidate of the Communist Party, will address the delegates.

The convention will adopt a state platform based on the needs of the workers and farmers of the state, and particularly to expose the many fakery that are confusing the workers with their demagoguery.

Ford will also speak at a large mass meeting in the evening of the 13th. Workers from Seattle and many from the nearby towns are preparing to make this meeting a great campaign rally.

Delegates should send in credentials to the Communist Party, 1421 1/2 Eighth St., Seattle, Wash.

FORD'S TOUR

District 12
Sept. 11—Spokane, Wash.
Sept. 13—Seattle, Wash.
Sept. 14—Tacoma, Wash.
Sept. 15—Aberdeen, Wash.
Sept. 16—Portland, Ore.

District 13
Sept. 18—Oakland.
Sept. 19—San Francisco.
Sept. 20—Los Angeles.
Sept. 21—San Diego.
Sept. 22—Phoenix, Ariz.

District 19
Sept. 24—Salt Lake City.
Sept. 25—Denver, Colo.

BENJAMIN TOURS WEST FOR UNEMPLOYED COUNCIL

National Secretary, Unemployed Councils, to Expose Fake Relief Schemes; Explain Program of U. C.

H. Benjamin, of the National Committee of the Unemployed Councils, is on a nationwide tour in connection with the problems of the unemployed.

His meetings will be chiefly devoted to explaining the program of the Unemployed Councils, expose the demagogues, particularly the so-called progressives in Congress, Cox, Harvey and the Liberty Party, the Citizens Unemployed Leagues, the "B. E. F.," and to rally support behind the platform of the Communist Party.

Also discuss with the leading workers in the Unemployed Councils methods for improving the struggle for relief.

More than three weeks of the

A great interest has been aroused throughout the west as the dates for Ford's meetings approach. Many workers organizations are preparing demonstrations to welcome the first Negro Vice Presidential candidate in the U. S.

In addition to speaking on the platform of the Communist Party, Ford will tell the story of the Washington massacre. Ford, himself and ex-serviceman, was one of the leaders of the Workers Ex-Servicemen's League during that time, and was one of the first to be arrested.

Many Negro organizations are organizing their membership to come in a body to the mass meetings. Ford will especially stress the sections in the Communist Party platform that deal with the struggles of the Negro workers and farmers.

The San Francisco meeting will be at California Hall, Polk and Turk streets, September 19, 8 p. m.

NOTICE California Workers

The Communist Party calls upon all workers' organizations and supporters of the Party to take an active part in the "write in" campaign. This means that thousands of workers will have to be shown that it is possible to vote for Foster and Ford in California by writing in the names of the electors.

The Party is putting forth two electors. The names of these two electors are:

WILLIAM FOSTER
JAMES FORD

These names are to be written in the first two blank spaces provided on the voting machines for electors for presidential candidates not appearing on the ballot. There are similar provisions on all paper ballots.
On the paper ballots a cross must be stamped with the rubber stamp provided in the election booths.

BENJAMIN'S TOUR

Denver, September 16, 17, 18.
Ogden, September 19.
Salt Lake City, Sept. 20, 21.
Phoenix, Sept. 23.
Tucson, Sept. 24.
San Diego, Sept. 25.
Los Angeles, Sept. 26, 27.
San Francisco, Sept. 28.
Oakland, Sept. 29.
Sacramento, Sept. 30.
Portland, Oct. 1.
Tacoma, Oct. 2.
Seattle, Oct. 3, 4, 5, 6.
Spokane, Oct. 7, 8.
Butte, Mont., Oct. 9.
Great Falls, Mont., Oct. 10, 11.

Save the Daily Worker

We have just received a telegram from the Daily Worker, central organ of the Communist Party of the U. S. A. that unless \$5000 is raised by Wednesday, September 14, the Daily will be forced to suspend. This urgent call must be answered immediately by many workers. Send in all you can to save our only daily paper in the English language. Send all money to Daily Worker, 50 E. 13th St., New York City.

Mooney Olympic Runners Sentenced

I. L. D. Appeals Case; \$1000 Bail Set for Each; Mass Protests Against Fascist Court Trial

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 2.—The six young workers who have demonstrated for Tom Mooney in the Olympic Stadium, have been sentenced to nine months by Judge Thurmond Clarke.

The I. L. D. is appealing the case. Bail has been set at one thousand dollars each.

In addition to the nine months sentence, Ethel Dell and Mayer Baylin received sentences of fifty days and one hundred days respectively, for contempt of court.

SAN DIEGO U. C. LEADER ARRESTED IN RELIEF FIGHT

Force Supervisors to Feed Seven Starving Families

SAN DIEGO, Aug. 29.—Carl Von Hessler, organizer of the Unemployed Council and Ernest Brown, an Unemployed Worker, were arrested here on August 27 for protesting the refusal of the part of the local welfare bureau to give relief to seven destitute families.

During the week several families complained to the Unemployed Council that all attempts to get relief were refused. Finally driven by desperation these families turned to the Unemployed Council. A committee, headed by Von Hessler, went to the welfare bureau to demand grocery orders for these families, and again met with refusal. When the committee became insistent, Pendleton, in charge, sent for the police and had the leaders arrested.

The workers were booked on the charge of disturbing the peace. They demanded a jury trial, which was set for September 16 before Judge Chambers.

Seventy-five workers attended the hearing to protest against the arrest. The judge and the court officials gazed open mouthed at the solidarity of the workers when they got up as one and followed Von Hessler out of the courtroom.

The workers then went to the meeting of the supervisors, taking place at the courthouse. There, before many welfare workers and reporters, the welfare bureau was denounced. The supervisors were held criminally responsible for the starvation policy.

Fearing the militancy of the workers, the supervisors appointed Supervisor Hastings to see to it that the families get food.

The board of supervisors are particularly enraged because a recent victory of the Unemployed Council forced them to add \$280,000 to the budget for welfare work.

MOBILIZATION POINTS SAN FRANCISCO HUNGER MARCH, Sept. 12

Main Mobilization Point, Fulton and Market, 1:30 p. m.
Mission, 16th and Howard Sts., 12:30 p. m.
Fillmore, Gough and Eddy Sts., 12:30 p. m.
Embarcadero, between Mission and Market, 12 noon
North Beach, Union and Stockton, 12:10 p. m.
Downtown, 765 Howard St., 12:30 p. m.

The march will proceed from all these points to the main mobilization center at Fulton and Market (near Civic Center). There a delegation will be elected to go to the Board of Supervisors and present the demands.

STATE A. F. OF L. CONVENTION TO MEET IN MODESTO

Rank and File Delegates Will Raise Vital Issues

The California State Federation of Labor will hold its convention on September 19 at Modesto. All local unions that are affiliated to the federation and have paid the per capita tax, are entitled to delegates. The indications are, however, that many locals this year will not be represented, not having paid the per capita, being virtually in a state of bankruptcy.

The district office of the Trade Union Unity League, to which many groups of the A. F. of L. locals are affiliated, states that this year the militant delegates at the convention will have to raise a number of very vital issues facing the workers of the state.

Defend Mooney Demonstrators

The struggle for the defense of the Mooney demonstrators is only beginning. The I. L. D. is appealing the case, and behind this appeal must be a great mass protest from the many thousands who are for the freedom of Tom Mooney.

The I. L. D. in order to carry through the defense campaign, is greatly in need of funds. Make all checks and money orders payable to the International Labor Defense, 120 Winston St., Los Angeles, Cal.

SOUTHERN CALIF. ELECTION MEET ON SEPTEMBER 25

Two Assembly Candidates to Run on Communist Ticket

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 5.—A Communist election conference of the southern California district is to be held in San Bernardino Sept. 25, to further intensify the campaign of piling up a large vote for Foster and Ford.

The chief purpose of the conference is to broaden the written campaign for Foster and Ford. Delegates are invited from all workers' and farmers' organizations in southern California.

The next issue of the Western Worker will announce the place where the convention will be held.

YET TO RUN

E. F. Chase, a worker, ex-serviceman, and active fighter in the Los Angeles Unemployed Council, who was recently arrested fighting against being evicted (see last Western Worker), is the Communist candidate for assemblyman from the 52nd district in California. Workers are busy collecting 1200 signatures necessary to place his name on the ballot.

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1. To favor unemployment insurance. Many locals that have repudiated the stand taken at the Vancouver convention of the A. F. of L.

2. The fight against having a mass of members taken off the books because they are behind in dues.

3. To demand a struggle against wage cuts and "grocery jobs."

4. To fight for the freedom of Tom Mooney.

5. The fight against the criminal syndicalism law.

At last year's convention all the workers and farmers coming from above issues have been either voted down or ignored.

8 CALIF. COUNTIES RING WITH HUNGER DEMANDS

Demanding winter relief for unemployed and hungry workers, county hunger marches will take place throughout California during September and October. Reports indicate that farmers are responding to the call of the Unemployed Councils and Workers Ex-Servicemen's League, and will form a united front with the city workers in demands for relief.

ALAMEDA SEPT. 29
The first of the series of marches will take place on September 12 at San Francisco. This will be followed on September 29 by a march of workers and farmers of Alameda county, when demands for relief will be made of county authorities at Alameda.

THREE MARCHES OCT. 3
October 3 will witness three hunger marches in widely separated localities. In San Jose unemployed workers and farmers of the Santa Clara valley will demand relief of the county. Los Angeles workers will demonstrate at the Plaza and San Joaquin county workers and farmers will march to Stockton, where committees representing the marchers will interview county officials, demanding relief.

San Mateo county workers and farmers will present their demand at Redwood City on October 10. The Sacramento county march will likewise take place on October 10. At Sacramento county supervisors have promised to be at the county building to receive the marchers, but workers declared today that they would march to the county seat and make their demands whether the county officials choose to be on hand or not.

The last of the marches scheduled thus far will be held at Santa Cruz, where farm and city workers will march and demand relief.

Reports from the various localities where workers and farmers will last from September 3 to 25.

WILL DEMAND WORKERS ADMINISTER \$6,500,000

Will Meet at Civic Center 1:30 p. m. to Demand \$10 Per Week in Cash, and That Profits Be Taxed for Unemployed

LOS ANGELES HUNGER MARCH OCTOBER THIRD

Conference to Prepare for March Sept. 11

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 6.—Called by the Unemployed Council and the Workers Ex-Servicemen's League, a conference of trade unions and workers' clubs will be held here on Sunday, September 11 to prepare for the Los Angeles County Hunger March October 3. The conference opens at 10 a. m.

The hunger marchers, mobilizing at 59th street and Central avenue, will march down to the county offices, being joined en route by members of various block committees and Unemployed Council neighborhood groups. Other workers will assemble at First and Evergreen and march down town, the two groups meeting at the Plaza and proceeding to the Hall of Records, where a committee representing the marchers will present their demands, which call for \$10 per week for every unemployed worker and \$3 each for dependents.

Response of workers to the call issued for the hunger march indicates it will be one of the most tremendous demonstrations of unemployed workers in Southern California.

NEVADA WORKERS
IN HUNGER MARCH

FALLON, Nev.—The workers and farmers of Churchill county, Nevada, will hold a hunger march on October 5.

The county commissioners are to meet on that date at Fallon, and will be met by delegations of different points in the county, to present demands for relief.

The march is being led by the United Farmers League and the Unemployed Council.

LAUNDRY WORKERS CUT 10 P. C. DESPITE VOTE TO STRIKE

Union Officials Co-operate With Bosses to Put Over Cut

Although 2000 San Francisco laundry workers have voted to strike against the 15 per cent wage cut at first proposed, they were finally compelled to accept a 10 per cent cut.

This was accomplished by the closest co-operation and secret negotiations between the union officials and the bosses.

The local officials with the assistance of a national vice-president have dragged out the negotiations for weeks, in the meantime using every conceivable method to split up the workers so as to carry the vote for accepting the wage cut. The San Francisco Labor Council also intervened and proposed the acceptance of the wage cut.

The indignation of the workers has been greatly aroused by the sell out. There are many that now consider the dragging out of the negotiations and the so-called compromise on a 10 per cent basis was pre-arranged between the officials and the bosses.

The laundry workers are among the most exploited workers. The wages for most were between \$10 and \$12 with only a few getting as high as \$23 per week.

BULLETIN
SAN FRANCISCO, ept. 7.—At a meeting held today in the City Hall, Mayor Rossi declared before a delegation of 21 of the Unemployed Council and Hunger March Committee, that a standing delegation of the Unemployed Council would be given a voice in the committee that is to supervise the distribution of the \$6,500,000 for relief carried in the recent election.

Mayor Rossi further agreed that the delegation of the hunger marchers would be given a hearing at the meeting of the supervisors on Monday, ept. 12.

A letter has been sent to the Board of Supervisors, informing them that the Hunger March will take place on September 12, to present before them the demands of the San Francisco Unemployed.

The letter includes the demands, chief of which are \$25,000,000 appropriation for relief, out of which \$10 per week be paid to each unemployed and \$3 additional for each dependent; that all relief funds be administered by the unemployed. That these funds come from taxing all incomes of county officials above \$3000 per year, and of all incomes of individuals and corporations above \$5000 per year; that all evictions be stopped.

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The laundry workers are among the most exploited workers. The wages for most were between \$10 and \$12 with only a few getting as high as \$23 per week.

The Trade Union Unity League has issued a leaflet to the workers which was distributed in the laundries. The leaflet called for a big rank and file strike committee, that no settlements be made without the approval of the workers, and against acceptance of any wage cuts.

Many militant workers of the union are coming to the T. U. U. L. office to take steps for a militant group within the union, that will represent the demands of the rank and file.

Editorial Column

THE RISE IN STOCK PRICES AND THE HUNGER MARCHES

The country is being flooded with optimistic propaganda about the "end of the crisis."

The biggest liars in this campaign are, as usual, the Hoover administration and its A. F. of L. agents. In a statement released August 31 and published in all the boss press, Green declares:

The fact that unemployment stopped increasing in August is encouraging. The check in the hitherto constant rise shows a distinct improvement over each of the other two previous depression summers when unemployment increased in August.

So Mr. Green says, there was no increase in unemployment in August! But what does his own research department say? In No. 38 of the monthly survey of business, issued by the A. F. of L., in the same week as Mr. Green's statement they declare:

The stock rise has not been followed by business improvement. From the end of June to the middle of August, steel production declined 15 per cent and automobile production 51 per cent, although auto output usually declines only 7 per cent at this season and steel usually begins to pick up. Unemployment has increased and workers' incomes are the lowest since the depression began.

Mr. Green's right hand doesn't know how his left hand is lying!

For the west the decline was worse for August than for any other part of the country. The financial pages of all the newspapers carried big stories about the "rise in electric power production for August" over July. We have computed this carefully. For the entire country there was a rise of 1-33 of 1 per cent; or not much more than it took to light the newspapers' offices where this proof of the end of the depression was written. But while this 1-33 of 1 per cent rise was reported for the entire country, the Pacific Coast showed a decline of 12.4 per cent.

And for the rest of the country declines were noted in practically every major industry. For example:

Steel is at 13 per cent of capacity, against 14 for the preceding month of July. Shipments of the important steel producers reached the lowest point of the depression. (Reported by the Iron Age, semi-official organ of the steel trust).

Railway earnings showed the largest decrease from the corresponding month of the previous year so far recorded in the depression. The first 72 roads to report for July of this year had net operating income of \$11,155,000, as against \$52,716,000 in the same month of last year, a reduction of 78 per cent. (Interstate Commerce Commission report).

These are signs of a deepening of the depression, not the end. The rise of stock prices is not due to an end of the depression, but to the maneuvering of the Hoover government and its backers to give the outward appearance of returning prosperity. It was especially made possible by the inflation moves, allowing the national banks to issue paper money without gold backing, but only on the government bonds and its own capital stock. This inflation, lowering the value of money, raises the price of stocks, and commodities. Wholesale commodity prices rose 2 per cent for August. This far from brings back prosperity to the workers, but has only increased the cost of living, and the misery of the masses.

Don't believe the capitalist liars!
Don't let up in the fight for unemployment insurance and immediate relief!
Join the County Hunger Marches.

JAMES FORD TOURING WEST

"The worst race riot in recent times in the west"—that is how the United Press reports last month's attack of the Denver police on several hundred Negro and white workers who tried swimming in the same public swimming pool. This fight capped a hole series of attempts by the bosses to stir up race antagonisms. Self styled "vigilantes" armed themselves in the state of Washington two months ago and ran Filipinos out of several counties. In Southern California Mexicans have been taken from their homes, work places and picked up on the streets by the thousands and shipped out without even a hearing.

The unity of black and white workers in Denver is a splendid show of militant resistance, and should arouse the entire mass of workers and poor farmers to fight against the victimization and discrimination against the black, yellow and brown peoples. Under the myth of white superiority the ranks of the oppressed masses are split asunder to weaken the struggle of revolutionary workers and strengthen the exploitation rights of the bosses.

Now James Ford, candidate for vice-president on the Communist Party ticket, will tour the west during September and the first part of October. He is the first Negro to have the nomination of Negro and white workers and farmers in a national party for this office.

His nomination is one way by which the Communist Party hopes to strike a blow against discrimination and prejudice. To be effective this move must have the participation of large masses of Negro, Filipino, Chinese and other groups which are victims of white chauvinism, as well as white workers.

Comrade Ford has already won his spurs as a working class leader of all races. He was one of those arrested in Washington during the massacre of the war veterans by the Hoover government. His first hand story of that historic event will be well worth hearing.

Workers of all races and nations, unite for liberation under the banner of Communism!
All out to Ford meetings.

ALL OUT FOR FORD MEETINGS



FROM COMMUNIST PLATFORM A

The Communist Party is the political Party of the oppressed masses of the people — the industrial workers, the persecuted Negroes, the toiling farmers.

The Communist Party enters this election campaign explicitly to rally the toilers of city and country, Negro and white, in a united struggle for jobs and bread, for the fight against imperialist war.

The Negro people, always hounded, persecuted, discriminated and discriminated against in capitalist America, during this period of crisis expressed as never before. They are the first to be fired when lay-offs take place. They are discriminated against when charity rations are handed out to the unemployed. They are cheated and robbed by the Southern white landlords, and evicted from their land and homes when their miserable income does not enable them to pay rent. When they protest against this unbearable oppression and persecution, they are singled out for police attacks in the North and for lynch victims in the South. Over 150 Negroes have been barbarously lynched at the instigation of the white ruling class since the crisis began. The Negro reformist misleaders are shamelessly aiding the white master class in these vicious attacks.

Every day of the crisis, every new effort of the bosses to find a capitalist way out of the crisis, brings new misery and new acts of terror to confront the oppressed Negro people.

EQUAL RIGHTS FOR THE NEGROES AND SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE BLACK BELT.

Stopping Munitions Shipments in 1919

With munitions and other war supplies daily leaving through the west coast ports for Japan, to be used against the Chinese people and the Soviet Union, the struggle to stop them becomes an increasingly pressing problem before the workers, especially those engaged in loading these supplies.

In 1919-20, when the Soviet government was surrounded by an iron ring of imperialist armies, every bit of solidarity expressed by the workers in other countries proved of great importance. It would prove of great interest and value to turn the pages of the Seattle "Union Record" during the days when the longshoremen of Seattle showed such a fine example for workers to follow in such a situation.

We merely cite the clippings which tell the story.

AN EXAMPLE

Sept. 8, 1919 . . . "Two car loads of rifles from Remingtons are in Seattle and sixteen more are reported to be rolling towards the city. . . . Are these munitions being sent here for exportation to Kolchack or to prepare in the event of a bolshevik revolution in Seattle?"

Sept. 9, 1919 . . . "War material arrived at Elliot Bay on the S S Calvert for Camp Lewis. . ."

"INNOCENT" PACKAGES

Sept. 18, 1919—"Cases believed to contain ammunition, rifles and machine guns consigned to Russia, are sitting unmoved on pier 5, the Frank Waterhouse & Co. dock, as a result of car gangs of twelve men walking off the job, following the demands to know what the cases contained. . . . According to the men, they reported to work Thursday morning as usual, and began loading

How the Seattle Longshoremen Stopped the Shipment of Munitions for War Against the Soviet Union in 1919

the cases when the question was asked as to their contents. After some further questioning a customs officer was called and opened some of the cases, one of the workers declared, displaying their war contents. The men immediately got together and refused to continue the loading.

"The cargo came to Seattle from eastern points, and was to have been sent overseas on the SS Marhu Maru, a Japanese freighter now loading at pier 5. "Longshoremen on the waterfront, have been warned to keep a careful watch for rifles concealed in innocent packages."

"SEWING MACHINE" BLINDS

Sept. 18, 1919—"Pacific coast longshoremen will tie up the coast from Seattle to San Diego before they will load rifles and ammunition for Siberia or any other part of Russia, declare delegates from the Riggers and Stevedores' local, 38-12, at the Wednesday night meeting of the Central Labor Council. Stating that efforts are being made to load vessels with munitions in crating innocently marked 'sewing machines' or otherwise, the delegates lent argument to the support of a communication to the council from the longshoremen's local, asking its financial and moral support to keep the rifles out of Russia. Amid a wild burst of cheering a motion that full support be given, was carried.

One delegate said that it was well known that seventeen car loads of munitions were in Seattle

ready for shipment.

WARN COAST OF MUNITIONS

Sept. 19, 1919—"Telegrams are being sent today from local longshoremen's union headquarters to all longshoremen's unions on the Pacific Coast, notifying them of the refusal of the workers here to handle the 65,000 rifles intended for Admiral Kolchack in his war on the Russian republic.

"Evidently no decision up to noon today had been reached by the local officials of the Russian Commission of Ways and Communications, to whom the shipment was consigned at Vladivostok, as to what disposition should be made of the munitions, and the rifles were still lying on the docks in the freight cars in Seattle yards.

"All attempts to see M. M. Jurin, in charge of the local office of the commission here, were futile, as the inquirers were notified that he was out.

"Six months ago the stevedores and dock workers notified President Wilson that the longshoremen here would not load arms to be used against the Soviet Republic of Russia, spending \$183 for the dispatch in order to make the position clear. The president replied that 'due consideration' would be given to the communication. . . . laundry workers pledged support of longshoremen for their action."

AMERICAN LEGION SCABS

Brief of article in Oct. 18, 1919 issue of Seattle "Union Record":

- outlined the following tasks:
- 1.—The election campaign.
 - 2.—Fight for unemployment insurance and immediate relief.
 - 3.—Campaign against war.
 - 4.—Building the Trade Union Unity League.
 - 5.—Building of the Western Worker.
 - 6.—Recruiting drive.

The Los Angeles section must now take energetic steps to bring its dues payments and attendance at unit meetings up to the membership on the roll. While the August dues average has gone up slightly, still it is not yet equal to the actual membership on the roll. The attendance is far below the average dues payments, and should be a warning that the inner life of the units is not such as to hold the attention of the new members.

Three New Units in The Last Week

In the past week three new Communist units have been estab-

lished in various sections of California. In Monterey, where hundreds of workers in the fishing and canning industries are situated, a unit has been organized. The Sacramento section reports a new unit in Rocklin. In the Southern California section a unit was organized at Ocean Park.

Arizona Party Holds Convention

As we go to press the Arizona section is calling its convention to order. Arizona has a number of live units in Phoenix and Tucson. The Communist Party is on the ballot in Arizona, and the convention must lay the plans for an energetic election campaign there.

The Recruiting Campaign

Since the last issue of the Western Worker, Los Angeles, San Jose, Sacramento and San Francisco have recruited a number of

Hetch-Hetchy Toll 85 Lives

Five more workers have been buried alive from a cavein in the Hetch Hetchy tunnels. This makes it a total of 85 officially reported killed since the project was started. To this should be added the hundreds who have been crippled, diseased and those that eventually died as a result of injuries and disease contracted while working on the project.

Of course this is a cost that generally does not figure in estimates. Under capitalism workers' lives have no value, especially in these days. Therefore why go into any expenses for protection against explosions, caveins or accidents?

All that is necessary is to have an investigating committee who report that "it was an unavoidable accident and liable to happen any time" (findings of a committee headed by Cahill).

Edward G. Cahill, manager of the public utilities commission, in charge of the project, expressed it correctly when he stated that the financial loss will probably be slight, though, of course, the value of human lives cannot be valued.

Chief Engineer MacAfee admitted that the timbering in place 19 months was too weak. Unquestionably would an investigation be made by workers representatives, it would be discovered that a reining of the timbering should have started sooner, or that in the first place the timbering could have been done with far greater regard for the workers' lives.

GRAFT BASIC CAUSE

The story of the Hetch Hetchy project could throw some light on the origin of the cavein. This project, which was originally estimated to cost \$45,000,000, has already run up a bill for \$160,000,000 to the City of San Francisco, and with the interest to be paid will probably mount the cost to \$200,000,000 before it is finished. The bulk of the expense found its way into the pockets of the bankers, contractors and grafting politicians. The fact that the project has extended for about 30 years, has been the basis for a political issue, and Mayor Rossi as one of his chief campaign planks, had to promise its completion.

A bond had to be floated for that purpose. It took a great deal of agitation to put the bond over. The bond had to be cut to the lowest possible figure, and even at that there are opinions that the \$6,500,000 would not finish the job.

Therefore a great deal of economizing has to be done. The lowest estimates must be obtained and any possible "extra" job or expense must be guarded against.

There was a great deal of debating among the supervisors before the decision was reached for a bond issue, but they unanimously agreed that it would spell disaster for the politicians if the bond would not prove sufficient.

Looked at from this angle, it is obvious that such questions as causes of disasters are not purely technical matters to be left in the hands of engineers, but are primarily class struggle questions.

The Hetch Hetchy project is being built by union labor. It is union by virtue of the unity be-

tween the Rossi machine and the A. F. of L. unions. The unions give the Rossi machine the votes they can command and the union label, while the Rossi machine makes it possible for these misleaders of labor to collect dues.

The A. F. of L. unions serve as a cover for the appalling conditions, in place of exposing the disregard for the workers' lives, as proven by the fact that 85 have been killed and hundreds injured. It becomes much easier to cover up such irresponsibility if a "labor" investigating committee finds the case an "unavoidable accident."

The risk of their lives are only a part of the rotten conditions that workers must endure, working hundreds of feet underground, victims of rheumatism, speedups, and low wages.

The workers on the Hetch Hetchy should be awakened by such occurrences to realize the necessity of militant struggle against the city politicians and the union leaders who work hand in hand with them, to demand better conditions and particularly force them to recognize a value in workers' lives.

SOVIET EXAMPLE

An example should be taken from the Soviet Union. There underground work is six hours per shift, and in work of this kind it goes as low as four hours per shift. There is a workers' committee on every job to see to it that safety devices are placed wherever possible, and are most modern. Naturally, what else could be expected, the workers there are working for themselves, and not for capitalists or grafting politicians.—G. M.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND WESTERN WORKERS

A. F. of L. Labor Fakers Try Their Demagogy Against the Soviet Union; Thousands of American Investors Want Soviet Bonds; Japanese Agents in U. S. Want Imperialist Unity Against Soviet Union and Chinese People

A rumor was spread about a month ago the Soviet government intended to float a loan in the United States. Immediately all the banks were besieged by people anxious to invest. It turned out, however, that the story was untrue. The Chase National Bank reported many disappointed prospects who saw an opportunity to invest in the only country of growing industry.

The Labor Clarion, organ of the San Francisco A. F. L. fakery, however, printed a wondrous story in its August 26 issue with some fancy interpretations as to the significance of such a loan.

In face of the bank reports of large numbers of investors trying to seize an opportunity they say that "American purchasers of Soviet bonds will be few and far between."

As a matter of fact such a loan would probably be taken up in a very short time. But that's just what they are afraid of, so they warn all and sundry that "The proposal and all the surrounding facts for a bond issue more than likely indicate a condition within the Soviet borders of tremendous gravity."

A. F. of L. DEMAGOGUES

The far fetched conclusion is all the more laughable since as "evidence" is submitted the fact that the U. S. S. R. is selling oriental rugs. With boldness of the demagogue the Labor Clarion plays upon the popular association of oriental rugs with Turkey, and then declare the rugs being sold by the U. S. S. R. are being "dumped at ruinous prices" for Turkey.

Hawkshaw, the detective, could not have figured out such an insidious plot.

Oriental rugs, gentlemen of the Labor Clarion, are also made in Transcaucasia, one of the seven largest republics of the U. S. S. R. And it is these that are being sold in the U. S. Furthermore in the Soviet Union the "grave" conditions are grave only for capitalism and their lickspittle labor lieutenants. And finally, gentlemen, may we remind you that only in the first workers republic has unemployment been completely wiped out. That industry is growing at a tremendous rate. And that for sixteen years, without help from the U. S., the U. S. S. R. is forging into major position among the industrial nations of the world, while capitalism is in the convulsions of its death.

JAPANESE U. S. AGENTS FOR INTERVENTION

Japanese influence in the west of the United States is carrying on a tremendous campaign for international imperialist intervention in China. They are at present circulating a copy of proposals made to the league of nations committee by the Japan Chamber of Commerce, of which the N. Y. K. shipping line and other large Japanese agencies operating on the Pacific Coast are members.

After recounting their failure to establish a central government strong enough to protect their exploitation rights; and after pointing out that the chief obstacle is the growth of the Soviet territory under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, they propose:

"The spread of Communism in China will necessarily effect the interests of the powers in the course of time and is a menace to the peace and order of China herself.

"A well concerted international co-operation seems to us the only way to the ultimate rehabilitation of China and the revival of world economics. Conditions in China since the establishment of the revolutionary government, will convince anyone that China's rehabilitation by herself is hopeless. We must form a concert and work in complete harmony and co-operation. If the powers continue to be jealous and suspicious of each other in the present circumstances of China, it will only lead to worse complications with nobody to gain and nobody to lose. It would be to the ultimate interests of the powers themselves if they should work in concert and deal with China as a single body."

WANT UNITY WITH U. S.

This document is obviously of a semi-governmental character. It is sponsored by the highest trade and industry bodies in Japan. It is the most brazen proposal for united imperialist intervention yet made.

Whether united or divided, the war for the seizure and partition by the imperialist powers goes on. The growth of the Chinese revolution under Soviet power is the only answer. The All America Anti-Imperialist League is helping to organize in the United States against imperialist intervention in China. Help them. Get in touch with them through the Western Workers.—S. A. D.