

**HOW FOSTER AND HIS COMMUNISTS**

(Continued from Page 1.)

in getting the union to give what scanty support it is giving to the Fayette county men.

"This sort of activity is what makes me satisfied with my affiliation with the Workers Party as I have never been either as a member of the Socialist Party or as unaffiliated. The W. P. is endeavouring to day by day take part in the struggles of the working class in such a manner as to assist most in the final overthrow of capitalism."

The data at hand show that Merrick's and Hamilton's work for the Miners Relief Conference was so intimately associated with their work for the Labor Defense Council that it is difficult at times to distinguish between them. Hamilton gave as much time and effort, according to his own reports, to the promotion of the Labor Defense Council, purely a Communist enterprise, as he did to the Miners Relief Conference.

The correspondence shows that while Merrick and Hamilton were appealing to the people of the country for money for the relief of "starving miners," they were also holding mass meetings in the same region to collect money from these "starving miners" to remit to the Labor Defense Council at Chicago.

When Merrick declined to approve the suggestion that another agent of the Labor Defense Council be sent into the Pittsburgh region, he gave as his reason that they were then collecting all the money from these "starving miners" which he believed it was possible to do.

Merrick in carrying on his work maintained close contact with Ruthenburg, William W. Weinstone, James P. Cannon, J. Louis Engdahl, William Z. Foster, and William F. Kruse, of the Communist organizations, and with Roger Baldwin, of the American Civil Liberties Union. Merrick was in frequent correspondence with Ruthenburg during last winter and spring concerning the details of the Communist campaign in the miners' union. Ruthenburg was irritated at the resistance offered by the United Mine Workers to the distribution of radical literature by Merrick, and on February 10 he wrote to Merrick, as follows:

"Certainly we cannot agree with your viewpoint in regard to the defense nor with the action of the district executive committee in ordering the discontinuance of the distribution of the program in the Pittsburgh district. There has been distributed by the Communist movement in the United States literature that was considered even more radical than the program could be and ways and means have been found in which to make the distribution. Certainly we should not, because of the attacks of the authorities and the arrest of three of our members permit that to interfere with the continuance of our work. That is not the Communist attitude. The Communist viewpoint is to continue the work of the movement irrespective of what the authorities say or do in persecuting our party. This does not mean that you need to make the distribution in such a manner as to expose the members to arrest, but certainly you should not allow such a little thing comparatively as has happened in your district, to interfere with the continuance of the work."

The American Civil Liberties Union was called upon by Merrick to give assistance in freeing the radical agents and emissaries who were arrested in the Pittsburgh region. A small loan was made to Merrick in one of these cases from the Garland Foundation Fund. In writing to Baldwin for a renewal of the note covering this loan on January 13, Merrick said:

Due to the terrific fight that developed in the election campaign in District Five of the U. M. W. of A., we are compelled to go to the miners for every cent we can get to carry on the fight of the Progressive miners. As a result of it, have won the election. While the machine, one of the most corrupt in the U. M. W. of A., claims victory by a small margin, we have proof that they were defeated and will carry it to the International Executive Board."

Baldwin replied that the Board had agreed "with pleasure to extend your note for sixty days."

In writing to C. E. Ruthenberg on August 10, Merrick said, with reference to Roger Baldwin, managing director of the American Civil Liberties Union and the Garland Foundation:

"In answer to my letter to Baldwin concerning the \$2,000 to the Garland Fund I got the information that the money has already been voted to be used exclusively in District No. 2 in Central Pennsylvania. I cannot blame Baldwin, for Brophy, the

President of the organization is a fine fellow and has co-operated with the Civil Liberties Union all along while the district officials here have refused to help at all.

Baldwin was also called upon by Merrick for a loan to finance the election contest in the Pittsburgh district against the officials of the United Mine Workers. The board of the Garland Foundation Fund refused to make this loan, however, and Baldwin advised Merrick to this effect.

Merrick's relations with James P. Cannon, known as "the paymaster" of the Communists, during the eight months "drive" have been equally intimate and business like. Cannon was the individual directly responsible for sending William F. Dunne into the Pittsburgh region at the start of the miners' strike in 1922. In writing to Merrick at that time concerning Dunne's prospective visit, Cannon said:

"We fully appreciate the importance of the Pittsburgh district in the present coal situation and want to help you in every way possible to make the most of the possibilities offered."

In the next article dealing with the Communist revolutionary movement in this country, the United Mine Workers will present the facts concerning the "boring from within" campaign as it relates to all trade unions and labor organizations in the United States, and the interlocking directorates and the mechanism by which these organizations are bound together and conduct their work virtually as one departmental unit.

**THAT FIFTY MILLIONS.**

(Continued from Page 1.)

sums for the use of the wealthy whilst the children are being destroyed and the health of the people undermined by bad housing conditions.

**FOR PRINTERS' ORPHANS**

Great hopes are centred on the trade flag day organized by the printing and newspaper industry on behalf of the War Orphan Fund of the Printers' Pension Corporation, on which there is a deficit of \$14,000. Flags are to be sold in every printing and newspaper establishment in the United Kingdom next

pay day. There are 900 war orphans being assisted by the fund. The flags are not priced, and the workers will give what they please for them.

**INSPECTION OF LABOR**

DISCUSSION BY GENEVA CONFERENCE.

The International Labor Conference at Geneva (wires Reuter) has adopted the report and recommenda-

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tions of the Fourth Committee regarding the organization of the inspection of labor, and the draft resolution of the Fifth Commission inviting the International Labor Office to present an annual report summarizing the results of the inspections of labor carried out by each State.

With regard to the nature of the functions of the Labor Inspectors the draft resolution was opposed by several delegates, including Mr. Poulton, representing the British workers, on the ground that certain of the enactments relative to the power of the inspectors could not be carried out by the Governments as they were not in harmony with their national legislation.

**"WHITE" ACTIVITY**

**FINNISH PROPAGANDA AGAINST RUSSIA.**

The newspaper "Arbeidet" (says a Reuter message from Christiania) publishes a report from Helsingfors according to which the Finnish "Whites" are showing increasing activity. Many meetings are being held and members are urged to hold themselves in readiness for possible fighting.

The "Arbeidet" also reports that M. Pikkala, a prominent White leader, made a speech at a meeting of Karelian Associations, choosing as his text, "All talk of Russian is between clenched teeth." He bade the Whites to be ready for action.

**WITH THE WORKERS.**

Battersea No. 2 branch, N.U.R. is asking its E. C. to open negotiations for a wage increase to meet the higher cost of living.

Wood Green Branch, N. U. R., has pledged itself to resist the railway companies' demands for reductions in the event of an adverse report being signed by the National Wages Board.

Five retiring members of the London Postal Superintending Officers' Association, whose total service is 207 years, received presents from colleagues on Saturday.

National Co-operative Managers' Association, London district, has arranged with Mr. W. Graham, M.P. (Central Edinburgh), to speak on "Foreign Exchanges and Retail Prices," on November 6, at 99 Le-man street.

**WORKERS' WAGES CUT.**

An industrial court award decides on a reduction of 2s. a week in the wages of women employed in envelope making and stationery manu-

facture. About 3,000 women employed in London are concerned. This was opposed by the National Union of Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Workers.

**BOILERMAKERS BAKERS.**

The 48th annual meeting and dinner of the Journeymen Bread and Biscuit Pension Society was held at the Horse Shoe Hotel, Tottenham Court Road, on Saturday, when it was announced that the income for the year amounted to £22,081. Payments to pensioners, numbering 76 men and women, amounted to £1,500.

**New Move To End Lock-Out.**

**BOILERMAKERS DRAFT PROPOSALS**

**DELEGATES' DECISION.**

The resumed delegate conference of the Boilermakers' Society at York yesterday drew up for submission to the Trades Union Congress Mediation Committee proposals for a settlement of the shipyard lockout. The nature of the proposals are not disclosed.

At the conclusion of the conference, which lasted until late in the evening, John Hill made the following official statement:

"During the past two days we have given particular consideration to the efforts of the Special Mediation Committee of the Trade Union Congress.

It was noted by the conference that the General Council of the Congress had already considered the question of the boilermakers' lockout, and had decided that this was a dispute which ought to have been referred to arbitration long ago.

"Thereafter the conference of boilermakers' delegates prepared a statement regarding the lock-out, and drafted proposals for a settlement which will be duly submitted to the committee of the Trade Union Congress.

"The conference also considered the letters from the Lord Mayors and Mayors of the North-East Coast cities and Boroughs.

"In this connection it was reported to the conference that similar letters had been sent to the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation, and that the employers had refused to accept the Mayors' request to meet them.

"The conference expressed its appreciation of the painstaking efforts of the Mayors to bring both sides together with a view to negotiating and ending the dispute, and it is deeply regretted that the action of the employers had rendered those efforts abortive.

"Mr. Hill declined to state the nature of the proposals for a settlement which the delegate conference decided to put forward, as he said that the

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