

At the Green there were no fewer than 22 platforms and upwards of 100 speakers. Vast crowds gathered round each platform, and the lit. salesman plied their wares. Most of the speakers dealt with the British Government attacks upon the Soviet Government of Russia, and condemnatory references to intervention met with cheers. A very large crowd gathered at the platforms addressed by the Countess Markivitz, as she described what was going on in Sinn Fein Ireland. At every platform the following resolution was put and carried unanimously:

"That this meeting declares for the overthrow of the capitalist system of production for profit, and the establishment of a co-operative commonwealth based on production for use; and, further, that this meeting of workers assembled on Glasgow Green sends their fraternal greetings to the European Soviet Republic and the workers of the world. Also, we protest against the arrest and deportation of foreign subjects without trial; further, we urge the withdrawal of all Armies of Occupation, and declares in favor of the 1st day in May being observed as International Labor Day."

MAY DAY IN FORT LEAVENWORTH

By a Socialist C. O.

While Cleveland was having its fatal May Day demonstration and while other free American cities were engaged in bloody rioting and fighting between citizens and police, with soldiers pitching in on both sides and shavetail ex-officers going into "action" for the first time, the militant Socialists imprisoned in Fort Leavenworth were observing the international revolutionary Labor Day under U. S. military sanction.

The open-air red flag parade was witnessed by a crowd of soldiers who offered no opposition but viewed it with apparent approbation. The one day stoppage of prison work by the celebrants met with the approval in advance of the prison authorities who made special arrangements to permit the rebel group to assemble and observe the day. Civilians and Q. M. sergeants and children on their way to school looked with amazement on the unprecedented prison scene as it unfolded itself behind the double lines of barbed wire surrounding the stockade annex of the Disciplinary Barracks.

The sensational feature of the day that will make it a bright memory for the amazed officers, the grinning soldiers and the triumphant laborites was this grand parade through "Wire City." It formed in front of the Bolsheviki Barracks, as the Socialist prison quarters are jocularly called, right after dinner. Red flags and banners were distributed among the 90 or 100 marchers. The winter hoods issued by the prison clothing department and lined with flaming red flannel were worn turned inside out. The covers of the Liberator bearing pictures of Lenine and Lincoln (Liebknecht's had been lost) were tied on brooms and borne aloft as sacred emblems. The Russians, as citizens of a bona fide revolutionary country, held the place of honor, leading the parade and chanting the Revolutionary Dead March and other Bolshevik songs. Then came Italian Socialists and Anarchists, American Socialists and aliens and Pacifists and, bringing up the rear, the handful of I. W. W.'s.

In and out between the stockade buildings the remarkable demonstration proceeded while sentries looked down dumbstruck from the watch-towers and the guards on duty within stood passively by. After the parade was half over, it reversed itself so that the I. W. W., starting up their songs, led the rest of the procession until it disappeared within the Bolsheviki Barracks. One soldier was observed leaning out of a window—the guard's barrack, waving a red ribbon. Many others cheered and applauded.

Suddenly the soldiers hushed and the deferential demeanor a soldier learns to display before his superiors indicated the appearance of officers on the scene. From the Bolsheviki Barracks came deafening cheers for the revolution, for Karl Marx, for Eugene Debs, for Lenine, Trotsky and Liebknecht. One of the "agitators" responsible in large part for arrangements went out and met a lieutenant-colonel, a captain, a lieutenant, several corporals and a number of buck privates.

"This must be stopped. I feel that you men have abused the privilege I gave you," declared the senior officer. He was smilingly assured that there would be no more disturbance, since the parade was over and the rest of the programme was chiefly speech-making. He was informed further that there had been no thought of abusing any privileges since permission had been given to "observe the day," and no May Day anywhere could be properly "observed" without red flags and a parade. The celebrators were so hilarious and also so completely satisfied with the success of their demonstration that they were content to let matters rest. Speeches were made, discussions went on and a general rejoicing was everywhere evident.

The programme as posted on the bulletin board in the morning read (names omitted):

9 a.m.

1. "The International," by all Revolutionists.
2. "Dead March," by Russian chorus.
3. Address: "Karl Marx," by
4. "The Red Flag," by all Reds.

12 noon.

1. Open Air Parade through Wire City.
2. "Hold the Fort," by I. W. W. choir.
3. Address: "The First of May," by
4. "Stung Right," by all Reds.

6 p.m.

1. Open-Air Singing between No. 6 and No. 7 Barracks.
2. I. W. W. vs. Socialist—Quoits Contest.
3. Address: "The American Way," by
4. Discussion of Revolutionary Methods.
5. "The Marseillaise," by all Reds.

The panic of the officers caused the remainder of the singing to be omitted, and a delay in supper forced postponement of the Wobbly-Socialist horseshoe throwing contest, but the speaking gained in nerve and spirit, and as reports drifted in of the glad surprise with which the other prisoners heard of the affair and of the helpless consternation among the authorities who had to recognize that nothing unlawful had occurred, the memorable day drew to a jubilant close.

Permission for the observance had been won by reminding the officials of similar permission granted to the Jews for commemorating Passover and the like, indulgence granted to Seventh Day Adventists and others. And it was not stretching the truth at all when the representatives of the militant Socialists said to the executive officer what all revolutionaries can proudly say: "The First of May, May Day, is the most sacred day in the year to us, as sacred as Passover to the Jews, as Christmas to the Christians, as the Fourth of July to nationalistic Americans. May Day is our international revolutionary memorial day."

The General Strike in Canada

The general strike which a short time ago was considered impossible in the Americas, now looms large and threatening. The second week of the Winnipeg strike finds the workers daily gaining strength while throughout the Dominion the idea of the sympathetic strike, the living demonstration of the solidarity of labor, is spreading rapidly. The Central Strike Committee in Winnipeg has the situation well in hand and their strength can be estimated from the attitude of Federal Minister of Labor Robinson, who has suddenly manifested great anxiety lest the workers are deprived of their "rights" by this body.

"Instead of giving to the workmen in any individual plant the right of collective bargaining with their employers" he is quoted as saying "the present plan deprives them of the right and places them entirely in the hands of a central body; which principle, the citizens' committee of Winnipeg, provincial and federal governments agree cannot be accepted."

When labor is forging ahead the opposing forces always become anxious for the working man, lest his "rights" and "liberties" from the hands of their masters that they can well afford to have them "endangered" by the actions of their own committees. This is the old game of "divide and conquer," but it has been worked out. The workers are not exercised very much just now whether or not their "right" bargaining by individual factory is "menaced." On the contrary they are beginning to wake up to the fact that the more factories engaged in the bargaining the better the chances of success and signs are not wanting that unless the employers and the Federal Government come to terms very shortly they will have to do the bargaining not only with a Central Strike Committee for one town, but with a Central Strike Committee for the whole country.