

ILLINOIS STATE FARMER-LABOR CONVENTION CALLED FOR MAY 18TH

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Following the example of the state of Illinois, the Illinois workers and farmers are now moving forward towards independent political action. A convention composed of farmer-labor groups will be held in Peoria, Ill., May 18th, and a call issued in the name of the Provisional Committee composed of well known labor representatives all over the state has gone out to local unions, farmers' organizations and other working class bodies, as well as political groups in the state of Illinois. All have been invited without qualifications or conditions to participate in this convention. Those who refuse to take part no matter for what reason will have to take the responsibility for any continued disunity of the forces of the farmers and workers.

Such unity of all the forces of the farmers and workers is sorely needed, as the masses by their lack of political unity have been powerless in the face of the united forces of the employing class.

Throughout the state, the basic manufacturing industries are operated on the "Open Shop" Plan with injunctions being used against any attempt to organize the workers. Injunctions have become an everyday occurrence against labor unions striking to better their conditions.

While Governor Small in an effort to line up the labor vote has dangled the bait of anti-injunction legislation before the workers, yet in view of his past record, it immediately becomes clear that this is only lip service against the injunction and as long as the old Capitalist Parties are used by men professing to be friendly to the workers, it is the capitalistic class which will dictate to and lay down the program for these men to follow. Governor Small has always been a warm supporter of capitalism, and its effort to crush the resistance of the workers, and to support him means to support the existing capitalist regime.

During Governor Small's administration the republican and democratic politicians united to defeat the Woman's eight hour law. During his regime the Lunden-Thompson combination in Chicago, created the Dailey Commission for no other purpose than to persecute and help destroy the existing labor unions, while simultaneously strike breakers were given police protection on construction jobs. Some labor leaders in spite of his effort to crush the workers are openly out boosting for Small. Others, masquerading as progressives are doing everything in their power to nullify the formation of a real workers movement. As a result of this situation the employers are in control and are using every agency of the government to enrich themselves. The old parties are both alike in everything but name. They are "Tea Pot Domers" both in Springfield and in Washington.

The gang in Springfield have stolen millions of dollars out of the state treasury. The gang in Washington have sold out to the oil crooks, aircraft company's bootleggers and any one else who has the money. Today it is necessary to make a new deal. The issue of supreme importance is for the workers and farmers to take up an aggressive struggle against the corrupt capitalist government, not only at the polls in the coming November elections, but a continuous struggle for the improvement of their conditions and for the final doing away with exploitation and to eliminate poverty.

The Convention in Peoria on May 18th, has been called for the purpose of swinging the State of Illinois into line for the National United Farmer-Labor Campaign at the elections in November, 1924. This convention will elect representatives for the June 17 Convention at St. Paul, at which a National Platform will be adopted and Presidential Candidates named. The Peoria convention will also nominate a ticket for the coming state elections and organize for a monster campaign on a Class Farmer-Labor basis. The Workers' Party throughout the state of Illinois is lending its full strength to make the convention a success. Every branch of the labor movement should be urged to send delegates to the Peoria convention. Workers Party members and militant workers in general should support this convention call in their organizations and see that delegates are sent, no matter how much strength the reactionary elements may have.

The militants are the only elements fighting for a real united farmer-labor movement and they are also the ones who can put it across.

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SOVIET MAY DAY GREETINGS SENT AMALGAMATED

Lauds American Union For R. A. I. C.

NEW YORK, May 4.—The Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America is praised for its services to Soviet Russia in a May Day message received from B. Bograchow, President of the All-Russian Clothing Syndicate. Bograchow was formerly a member of the union in Baltimore and has since risen to the leadership of the Russian Clothing industry. The All-Russian Clothing Syndicate is the state enterprise in which the RAIC (Russian-American Industrial Corporation) has invested, some 5,000 American workers having already loaned money to Russia in this way. The RAIC paid its first dividend last December.

Bograchow, in his message to the Amalgamated, reviews the events subsequent to the November revolution in Russia when the workers seized the factories. After sketching the work of the union and the industry during the course of the civil war he shows how with the end of the attacks from foreign powers and the inauguration of the NEP (New Economic Policy) the clothing industry undertook its own reconstruction on a solid economic foundation in accordance with the available technical and financial resource and market conditions. Then referring directly to the assistance rendered by the American union, he says.

U. S. Immigrants' Work.

"The influence of the Amalgamated on the development of the clothing industry in Russia has been felt from the very moment the Russian needleworkers began to organize the industry. The first inspiration to conduct the clothing industry in Russia along American lines came from an immigrant group of Amalgamated members. Those comrades imbued with the spirit of the Amalgamated and trained in the Amalgamated methods of struggle, now applied their American experiences to the problem of building up the Russian clothing industry."

The Russian tailors, according to Bograchow, will never forget the aid rendered them by the Amalgamated when it shipped a boatload of machinery for the new clothing industry.

25 Per Cent Production Gain.

Bograchow reports that the clothing industry in Russia is now making very satisfactory headway and is assured of a splendid future. He pointed out that the Syndicate expected to pay a higher dividend in the near future, which will, of course, be reflected in a payment to the shareholders of the RAIC. The Clothing Syndicate now operates some 34 factories with 18,000 workers. Its total output of goods for the current year will reach over 3,000,000 pieces, an increase of 25 per cent over last year.

"Higher Learning" Of 34 Methodist Students Stopped

DALLAS, Texas, May 4.—Thirty four students of the Southern Methodist University who figured in the "wilderness dance" at Savage Lake or helped publish "The Dinkey," campus scandal sheet, were dismissed today by the faculty.

Nine of the students including four editors of "The Dinkey," were expelled, 25 others who contributed to the outlaw publication or participated in the drunken lake revel were indefinitely suspended.

In addition the faculty discipline committee placed 22 students on probation for the remainder of their scholastic careers.