

that he did not negotiate any further with them before leaving for the west.



# The A.F. of L. Entrenchment Workers Control of Industry

## "Holy Family" Took Action To Make Positions Secure

In the closing hours of the Atlantic City convention the "Holy Family" of the American Federation of Labor became apprehensive of the security of their future position and decided to entrench themselves.

There has been a strong tendency inside of the A. F. of L. to modernize the organization. Many workers have come to realize that the obsolete plan of craft organization is but the reflex of craft production and should pass away with the passing of craft production. They have come to understand that any organization that proposes to protect the workers in modern industry must be formed upon an industrial basis as a reflection of industrial production.

Further, as the development of the capitalist system has given a political character to strikes, by the more frequent and sudden use of the political weapons against the strikers, wage slaves have come to appreciate the value of calling a strike of the whole community.

These tendencies towards industrial organization and the general strike menace the security of the position of the dues eaters in the American Federation of Labor and they have taken steps to stop it.

The Constitution of the Federation has been amended to make it illegal for any organization or members of the organization to advocate a general strike or industrial organization without the consent of the General Executive Board of the American Federation of Labor. Everyone knows how much chance there is for the Executive Board to approve of that kind of agitation.

There is an old saying that if a calf is given enough rope it will hang itself. It is quite certain that the A. F. of L. is getting enough rope. The question of its hanging rests with the workers.

## Capitalism Uncrupulously Desperate In Efforts To Crush Russian Workers

There is a counter-revolutionary magazine, *Struggling Russia*, (which is financed by American banks with Russian money), carrying on a very large campaign of advertising against the Workmen's and Peasants' Republic of Russia. This magazine insists that Bolshevism is "the central world problem."

The conscious capitalist press is now stressing this aspect of Bolshevism. They now recognize that it is not a problem of pro-German agents, of mass murder, of chaos in Russia; nor simply a Russian problem—it is the central world problem of Socialism against Capitalism.

The determining factor in international events is not that Germany has been crushed, or that a number of small nations have emerged to "independence," or that the world is being divided territorially and financially. The determining factor is that out of all this, out of the war and the collapse of Capitalism, has emerged the definite proletarian struggle for Socialism. This struggle for Socialism is no longer a theory isolated in action; it is now a fact of life itself, the most vital problem for Capitalism and the proletariat.

In meeting the problem, Capitalism is fighting for its very existence. And it is unscrupulous in its use of methods. The workers of Russia initiated this world struggle for Socialism; and so international Capitalism, represented by the allies, concentrates its attacks upon the workers of Russia as the resolute defenders of the interests of the workers of the world. Starvation, counter-revolutionary plots, assassination, invasion and terror—all these are means used in a desperate struggle to crush Socialist Russia.

The apologists of Capitalism try to complicate the problem. They try to make it difficult for the workers to understand.

But the problem is very simple. It is not a problem of democracy, or of communizing women, or of mass murder, or of any of the lies spread so feverishly by the bourgeois press and other agents of Capitalism. The crux of the "Russian problem" is simply this: workers' control of industry.

Let us for a moment consider the purpose of the Soviet Government. The political power of Capitalism (and its ally, the nobility) has been crushed. The workers have conquered political power. The workers are using this power to crush the industrial power of the capitalists, giving the land to the peasants and the factories to the workers. A capitalist republic (such as prevails in our own country) recognizes the "rights" of capital as supreme the whole social system is based upon the supremacy of capital. The Soviet Republic, which is a republic of the masses of the people, recognizes the rights of the workers alone. The basis of the Soviet Republic is workers' control of industry, industrial democracy. Slowly, painfully, in spite of starvation and alien invasion, the Russian masses are crushing the power of capital, freeing the workers from the tyranny and the exploitation of capital, and constructing a new society of communist labor and fraternity, of workers' control of industry, in which labor shall work for the peace and happiness of the people, and not for the profit of the capitalists.

The Russian revolutionary masses are introducing Socialism. This fact is against the interests of Capitalism, since if Socialism proves a success in Russia the workers of the world will struggle for a similar objective. Capitalism, accordingly, mobilizes against the Socialist workers of Russia in order to crush the workers of the world.

What is Capitalism? It is a social system based upon private property, upon the private ownership of industry by the capitalists. The workers are deprived of industrial property; they must secure a job in order to live, and these jobs are dispensed by the capitalist owners of industry. The owner of industry is out to make profits; he employs the workers simply in order that they shall produce profits for him. The wages of the workers do not represent all the values produced by their labor; the employers appropriate part of these values, a surplus value over and above the value represented in the wages, which becomes the profit of the capitalist class. In other words, the workers are robbed of a portion of the fruits of their labor, out of which booty the capitalists acquire wealth and power.

Capitalist industry, moreover, is an autocracy. Starting with the small employer, up to the great masters of finance, the capitalist class absolutely controls industry.

This autocratic control of industry culminates in the absolute control of the industrial life of the nation—and of the world—exercised by finance-capital, by the great banks and industrial monopolists, by an insignificant minority of the people.

The workers have no say in the management of industry under this industrial autocracy. They have no vote in the management of production, or in the disposal of the goods they produce. They must accept the decisions of the industrial autocrats. They may ease their bondage a bit here and there by means of unions; but this slight advantage is offset by the increasing power and tyranny of capital.

Under this system, the workers do not work to live, they live to work. They live to produce wealth and power and pleasure for the masters of industry.

This industrial autocracy of capital controls the government. It controls the press. It controls the schools. It controls because these industrial autocrats have the wealth, and wealth under Capitalism means power. This industrial autocracy is able to purchase the services of a mercenary army of intellectuals, educators, politicians and journalists, whose task it is to deceive the masses and promote the supremacy of Capitalism. Democracy in government becomes a fraud under a system where industrial autocracy prevails.

Out of the industrial autocracy of Capitalism comes the misery and oppression of the workers, wars and all the evils that afflict humanity. Out of this system develops the class struggle of the proletariat against Capitalism.

As a contrast to this terrible system, the Soviet Republic of Russia stands as an oasis in the desert, as the Promised Land of working class emancipation.

Most of all, the government of Soviet Russia is a working class government. The capitalists are excluded from participation in this government, since the class interests of the capitalists compel them to exploit the workers; and the Soviet Government is a government of the workers. Where a capitalist government uses its power against the workers and for the capitalists, the Soviet government uses its power against the capitalists and for the workers.

The purpose of the Soviet government is to break the power of the capitalists, and develop the conditions for the introduction of Socialism.

Socialism, in the theory of Marx and the practice of Soviet Russia, means workers' control of industry. How does this work?

In production Russia, the factories are put in the control of the workers. The system of control starts at the bottom, with the workers, not with a bureaucratic state, or politicians, or capitalists. Every factory elects a Factory Committee, from among the workers and the

technical staff, which is supreme within the factory. Where the capitalist owner has not been eliminated (in many cases he is temporarily retained as a manager) he is subject absolutely, in all his actions, to the control of the Factory Committee, which regulates the purchase and sale of products, factory conditions, wages, hours, etc.

But one factory is not independent of any other factory,—production is a complicated process that requires centralized management. The various factory committees in a particular locality, accordingly, elect representatives to a Lower Workmen's Council of Control, which regulates the relations of factory to factory in a particular district. These various Councils of Control are centralized into All-Russian Superior Council of Control, which unifies factory production in all the country. The central organ of industrial control is the Supreme Council of National Economy, which unifies the Workmen's Organs of Control, the peasants' committees of management, and the Soviet Government. In this way are unified production, distribution, wages and conditions of labor.

This is the basis of industrial democracy, of workers' control of industry. All these committees and councils of control are elected from the bottom up, by the workers, who are industrial citizens and use the industrial vote to control the management of production.

It is on the basis of this workers' control of industry—the end of capitalist industrial autocracy and the profit-power of the capitalists—that the workers and peasants of Russia are constructing a new society.

The "central world problem of Bolshevism," accordingly, is a simple workers' proposition. It is within the comprehension of every man and woman who works for a living in shop, mill or mine; easily comprehended, in spite of the distortions of a mercenary press. The "central world problem of Bolshevism" means simply the determination of the proletariat to crush the industrial autocracy of capitalism and introduce the industrial democracy of Socialism,—workers' control of industry.

The Soviet Government itself, which is of a political character while elected industrially by the workers in the factories and the peasants in the fields, is a temporary affair. It serves two purposes: (1) to crush the political power and the resistance of the capitalists, Russian or alien; and (2) to develop the conditions for the construction of a new industrial government. When the introduction of Socialism in Russia (and the world) is completed, then the Soviet Government, the dictatorship of the proletariat, will disappear, having accomplished its purpose; then the only government which will remain (which is not a government in the old sense) will be the industrial administration comprised in the management and regulation of production of the workers. This final "government" is now being constructed by the Soviet Republic, through the Factory Committees, the Workmen's Councils of Control and the Supreme Council of National Economy.

It is a simple proposition, this workers' control of industry; but it means the end of Capitalism, predatory, reactionary, brutal, represented by the Allies, is determined to crush the Soviet Republic.

This means to crush everywhere the developing proletarian movement for workers' control of industry,—which alone can bring peace, liberty and happiness to the workers.

Capitalism means oppression, misery and degradation for the workers. The democracy of Capitalism (limited to politics) is a fraud means for the oppression of the workers. Capitalism and its democracy means want, unemployment, starvation wages, oppression for the workers; and wealth, ease and luxury for the capitalists.

Industrial democracy, workers' control of industry, means the world for the workers, peace, liberty, happiness.

## Russian Accusation

### Workers' and Peasants' Government! Ask For Investigation of An Atrocity

We reproduce the following from a Budapest paper, a copy of which was recently received in this country:

A charge that the British military executed without trial 26 Bolshevik prisoners who were on their way to confinement in India is contained in a wireless message, sent out by the Soviet government at Moscow, picked up by the steamer Franklin. The wireless does not state where the executions took place, beyond indicating an indefinite area near the Caspian Sea. The message also indicates that the prisoners were not shot by British soldiers, but by trans-Caspian counter-revolutionaries acting under orders from British officers. The message picked up by the Franklin is given here for the first time:

"News leaked out not long ago that a number of Russian revolutionary emissaries who had been captured were being deported to India by train. The train that carried them was brought to a lonely spot of the desert and the escort appointed by the British military authorities and the trans-Caspian counter-revolutionaries executed the orders given them. They shot their prisoners, 26 persons in all, and buried their dead victims in the sand. This atrocious and cowardly deed being committed, the British military authorities carefully tried to conceal it. General Thomson having requested Chaykin, of the Russian Soviet Government, to communicate to him the evidence upon which his statement was based. Chaykin demanded that the security of the witnesses should be guaranteed and that a mixed commission should investigate the crime, the impartiality of the investigation being thus secured. However, General Thomson rejected these just demands, clearly showing that the only desire of the British authorities was to take revenge upon those who had disclosed to the world their criminal deed. But the truth being now known, no strategem can conceal it any more or save the perpetrators of this atrocity from public shame.

"The British Government, whose representatives have so often vilified the Russian workers' and peasants' government for the so-called red terror that is really a necessary act of self-defence; disgraced and magnified it by calumny; this same British Government is now publicly committing a heinous and cowardly murder of defenseless prisoners whose only crime was that they remained faithful to their popular workers' and peasants' government.

"The British Government cannot point out any similar acts on the part of the Russian Soviet Government, the latter not being capable of such cowardice and treachery. The British Secretary of State having called the Russian Soviet Government murderers in its life and death struggle against a world of enemies, every honest man will now see who are the real murderers.

"The Russian Soviet Government protests before the laboring masses of the world against the shameful deed of the British authorities and appeals especially to the class-conscious workers of Great Britain who will not fail on the side of honor, of real justice and of social good.

**How to Attain Old Age.**  
Sir George Reid's golden rule for the attainment of old age is worth a place in the Office Window as a corrective to all war yaleadings: "I have aimed at health and happiness and when confronted by a formidable obstacle I have first tried to knock it over; failing this, to get round it; if not, then under it; and if all these maneuvers failed I have been content to lie down in its grateful shade, lauding it as a beautiful blessing in disguise."—London Chronicle.

**Dense Philippine Forests.**  
You may cut an entrance into a Philippine lowland forest and so dense and high is the overgrowth that you feel as though you might be in a vast cathedral with only subdued rays of light entering here and there through window panes of heavily stained glass. The sun is completely obscured and it is impossible to tell the points of the compass. A twilight gloom pervades everything and it is useless to even guess the time of day.

**How They Breathe Under Ice.**  
The ability of a beaver to remain under water for a long time is really not so strange a problem as it looks. When a lake or pond is frozen over a beaver will come to the under surface of the ice to expel breath, so that it forms a wide flat bubble. The air coming in contact with the ice and water is purified, and the beaver breathes it again. This operation he can repeat several times. The otter and muskrat do the same thing.

**Climatic Changes Due to Man.**  
Tracing the climatic records of South Africa, J. M. Sim has reached the conclusion that the rainfall has not only diminished in the last century but has changed in character from soft soaking rains to torrential thunderstorms. Human influences—the destruction of forests and the ruining of the grass veld by burning—are believed to have been chiefly responsible for the changes.

**Had Had His Fling.**  
Ted's mother has given him an allowance of ten cents a week, but she has tried to encourage him to save some of it as a matter of training. Last Saturday she asked him how much he had left. He looked rather chagrined at first and then finally confessed that he had spent it all. His mother appeared sorrowful, until Ted added with enthusiasm: "But, say, I sure have lived like a prince for once."

**Evidence of Failure.**  
We frequently find men of culture who take pride in their art or their science but who have no feeling for morality or religion and are rather proud of the fact. Is it not rather evidence that their culture is failing to raise the possibilities of experience to their highest power?—Minneapolis Journal.

**Called for Meat.**  
My brother was telling his little daughter a story and at the same time was trying to get her to sleep, which was a hard thing to do. He was telling the story of Rip Van Winkle. He was saying, "And he walked and walked and walked—" "O, don't walk so much," chimed in the little girl.—Chicago Tribune.

**Tweeds Copied From Nature.**  
Ideas for the colors in the best Scotch tweeds are found in the bed of the River Garry, in the pass of Killiecrankie. Granite, porphyry and Jasper are found there in rich reds, grays and greens, beautifully mottled and mixed in finely contrasted colors.

**Asbestos Ropes?**  
To lessen the amount of metal used in fire escapes a Hungarian living in Canada has patented one, the chief features of which is a basket to be lowered by ropes from a bracket fastened to a window frame.

**Ancients Made Bricks to Last.**  
In the British museum are bricks taken from the buildings in Nineveh and Babylon, which show no signs of decay or disintegration, although the ancients did not burn or bake them, but dried them in the sun.

**Can, but Don't.**  
German experimenters have found that explosions can be caused in gas works by sparks from telephones, although nothing of the kind has been known to occur.

**New Lighthouse Mechanism.**  
Mechanism in a lighthouse that uses electric light automatically switches on a new lamp and moves it into focus should the original lamp be extinguished.

**What Does Canal Do.**  
Although the Suez canal is only 80 miles long, it reduces the distance from England to India by no less than 4,000 miles.

**Too Generous.**  
The trouble with the fellow who borrows trouble is that he wants to loan some of it to everyone he meets.

**Optimistic Thought.**  
The feeling of shame at what is wrong is the commencement of virtue.

**Knotty Problem.**  
Here is a queer case for a law action. A man who was insane determined to throw himself out of the window of an asylum. He made several attempts and was prevented by the servants. Put in a new apartment, he tried again, jumped out of the window, fell on the lawn and injured himself seriously, but, strange to say, the shock cured his mental disorder. At once he sued the officers of the asylum for negligence. The plaintiff was nonsuited.

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We invite all Loggers in the interior to join hands with us in a united effort to better our conditions, which can only be done in this manner.

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So get ready!

For further information communicate with E. Winch, secretary-treasurer, 61 Cordova St. W.

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