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SEAMEN'S STRIKE CALLED OFF; UNION HEADS REFUSE SUPPORT

C. W. Deplores Lack of Support on Part of Catholic Workers and Students

The two-months strike of the east coast members of the International Seamen's Union is called off as we go to press. The fight, carried on against shipowners and corrupt union leadership, was manifestly a just strike punctuated by lawless company tactics and police brutality.

After a conference in Chicago, with the officials of the I. S. U., the rank and file decided that it was useless to carry on until they could organize the whole East and Gulf coast and work in collaboration with the West coast.

Demands

The workers, under a rank and file leadership, demanded substantially the same conditions given the West coast seamen under the West Coast Award. These include an eight-hour day, payment for overtime, all hiring to be done

through union halls. Other demands were adequate safety at sea for passengers and crew, better accommodations for crews on board ships, all agreements to expire on the same date as the West Coast agreement.

Corrupt Leadership

The fight was also directed against the present leaders of the I. S. U., who were not placed in office by a rank and file vote as the constitution provides, but by company officials. That they are not representative of the rank and file, is obvious. The I. S. U. officials, including Paul Sharenberg, David Grange and John Bley, had declared the strike to be an "outlaw" affair, whatever that might be. We insist with Norman Thomas that no strike is "outlaw" if it is the wish of the rank and file and is carried

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Christ, The Worker

EASY ESSAYS

by

PETER MAURIN

BANKING ON BANKERS

1. GOD OR MAMMON

1. The Christian says: "The dollar you have is the dollar you give."
2. The Banker says: "The dollar you have is the dollar you keep."
3. Christ says: "You cannot serve two masters God and Mammon."
4. "You cannot, and all our education consists in showing us how we can serve two masters God and Mammon," says Robert Louis Stevenson.
5. "The poor are the true children of the Church," says Boesuet.
6. "Modern society, has made the bank account the standard of values," says Charles Peguy.

2. USURERS NOT GENTLEMEN

1. When the Canon Law and not the Roman Law was the Law of the Land, money lending at interest was called usury.
2. Usurers were not considered to be gentlemen when Canon Law was the Law of the Land.
3. People could not see anything gentle in trying to live on the sweat of somebody else's brow by lending money at interest when the Canon Law was the Law of the Land.

3. WEALTH-PRODUCING MANIACS

1. When John Calvin legalized money lending at interest, he made the bank account the standard of values.
2. When the bank account became the standard of values, people ceased to produce for use

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COMMUNIST WRATH AROUSED BY CONSTRUCTIVE JESUIT PROGRAM

Statements in New Masses Sample of Bolshevik Technique—Can't Minton Read?

The New Masses:

The Society of Jesus advocates fascism in the United States. It preaches anti-semitism, race prejudice against Negroes and class collaboration designed to smash labor unions and discredit the working class.

The Jesuits insist that redistribution must be accomplished "not through confiscatory methods, but through a more equitable distribution of income." How this can be brought about, the pamphlet does not explain, except to hope that "individuals surrender part of their acquired property rights where necessary for the common good." No word on old-age pensions, unemployment insurance, or any concrete proposal of methods to improve the conditions of the workers.

The Jesuit pamphlet under attack:

RACES must cooperate, recognizing:

- a. A common humanity,
- b. A common sonship of God,
- c. A common destiny,
- d. An interdependence of rights, privileges, and responsibilities and a realization that no race suffers without damage to all humanity.

Therefore it is the duty of right-thinking people:

- a. To condemn the fostering and expression of race prejudice, and of practices based thereon, as destructive of justice and charity and productive of discord and violence.

INDIVIDUALS must be cooperative:

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Black Legion Rise Indicative Of Fascist Trend

The country, long used to tales of vigilante terrorism, has brushed aside vague consciousness of Tampa floggings, Scottsboro travesties, sharecropper atrocities and lynch mobs, and become righteously indignant over the activities of the "Black Legion." In many respects similar to the Ku Klux Klan and like 100 percent American organizations, of present date in beliefs and hatreds, it is typical of the Fascist trend in America. "We are not interested, right now, in reporting the murders and torturings ascribed to the organization. The daily press has reported the expose with all the relish that only American dailies can. The immediate social effect is a matter of law; the state will take care of the murder and torture angle. The more far-reaching, the broader social implications seem to us to be of far more importance than revenge of the state for the murder of one of its citizens.

"Finks"

The rise of the "Black Legion" in Detroit, for instance. A report in the *New York Times* (of all places) says, "The rise of the organization here is the result of a peculiar social situation. From 1921 to 1929 there was an influx of unskilled factory labor from the hill sections of the South, chiefly from parts of Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi. Clannish, the newcomers lived in communities of their own." Significant? It gives the lie directly to those of the Detroit manufacturers who have consistently denied the importation of "southern crackers" to take the place of union workers. In other words, the organization is one composed of strike-breakers, "finks," union-busters, or any other name you like. To quote the *Times* again, "One purpose of the Black Legion is to get jobs for its members. Not one of those who have been in custody or questioned is unemployed. Several attributed their jobs to the aid of other members."

Catholic A.P.A.'s

The members of the Black Legion are pledged to needled up patriot-

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Farming Commune Going Ahead Fast; Report of Work

James Montague, Mgr.,
Tells of Successes
and Difficulties

Our new venture is full of amazements to an interested observer. Our community consists of people of all ages, different temperaments, different likes and dislikes, and no two of us were brought up in exactly the same kind of homes. This, we will readily agree, does not make things a push over. Despite all these obstacles we are able to make headway in planting the crops and beautifying the place.

Our inadequate water supply has been the chief concern in the past and vies for first place with a mounting grocery bill and insufficient tools and materials to work the place. Our two cisterns are easily drained because of the unusual tax upon them. For drinking water we have been using a spring, which we found down on the adjoining property. Four or five of us sunk a barrel down there and we hope to have a plentiful supply of drinking and cooking water until we are fortunate enough to be able to sink a well on our own place. One day a man was up here who deals in second hand lumber and he told us we wouldn't have to go over thirty-five feet down before striking water. When we are able to get the drill, pipe, and pump and whatever else we need for such an operation we are going to put all necessary hands to work sinking the well.

Food and Work

The air and hard work here are conducive to large appetites. It is very hard to consider using the same system here as the one we used in New York. In there we had days of plenty when we ate well and lean days when we ate little. Out here it would be days of plenty when the work would be done and

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American Stores Clerks Strike in Philadelphia

Need Support of Consumers;
Boycott Urged
By C. W.

Down in Philadelphia, a group of managers and clerks of American Stores, Inc., are carrying on a valiant fight against anti-union activities of the concern. Local 973 of the Retail Clerks International Protective Association is striking for union recognition and a decent standard of living. According to an affidavit signed by Daniel McGlynn, rank and file representative of the union, the abolition of the NRA was a signal for the lengthening of working hours from 48 to 60 hours per week, and a reduction of wages from \$15 to \$7 for clerks and \$35 to \$17 for managers. Fear of being fired has kept a great many from joining the union; the affidavit accuses American Stores of spending huge sums to crush the strike on the part of the more courageous of the workers, and an interview with Mr. McGlynn by the writer disclosed a close alliance of the company with the police. A number of the strikers, including Mr. McGlynn are the victims of framed police charges.

To Catholics

A concerted boycott of all American Stores by the citizens of Philadelphia is the best weapon the strikers have for their manifestly just strike. So far, no Catholic organizations have come to the aid of the strikers. Which gives us the opportunity to ask again of Catholic students and organizations, "Why aren't you on the picket line? Have you no interest in labor but 'stuffed shirt' discussions of the encyclicals and St. Thomas?"

To Catholics, especially those so perturbed about the "red" activities, we say, "if Communism makes advances with the workingman, it is

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Cotton Croppers Demand Increase; 4,000 on Strike

While Cotton Carnival runs rampant in Memphis members of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, laborers, cotton croppers, went on strike. They are asking for an increase in daily wages, and better conditions. They have been getting \$.60 and \$.70 per day—working from sunrise to sunset. A daily wage of \$1.50 for a ten-hour day is their reasonable demand. While their landlords are throwing away money on floats and pagantry thousands of men and women who made "King Cotton" possible are jobless and facing starvation. If they can hold out until the weeds choke the crop they will be able to bring the planters to terms and so these embittered Negro and white farm workers are praying for rain. It is not the tenants or sharecroppers who are involved but the day laborers organized by the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union. The area affected is northwestern Arkansas across the Mississippi River west of Memphis.

Strike Unanimous

All last winter the strike was being prepared and at a general meeting representatives of 78 locals set the date and enthusiastically pledged full support. Not a dissenting voice was heard. Strike committees were organized and scores of men and women went through the countryside of the affected area proclaiming the strike. Four thousand workers have walked out. The planters, with plenty of time to meet the strike, had doubled their working force and are now seeking to redouble again by offering the sum of one dollar per day to any willing to scab—splendid remuneration. The Workers Alliance, an organization of the unemployed in Memphis, have promised support in keeping those on the city's relief rolls from scabbing. A telegram from Wm. Green promised A. F. of L. support.

Latest Report

Latest Associated Press report states that the S. F. T. U. asked sharecroppers & Tenant Farmers

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