

Editorial Page of the Workers' World

The Workers' World,

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE WORKERS' WORLD
P. O. Box 427, Office Hours 2-8 P.M. 40th & 12th
Home Phone Main 8465.

JAMES P. CANNON, Managing Editor
JOHN DENISON, RALPH CHIVY, HARRIET COOPER, JAMES L. FERGUSON, JAMES WALDO FANCETTE, GEO. W. PARDELL.

We Are the International Labor News Service
EDITORS: James P. Cannon, Harriet Cooper, James L. Ferguson
D. Louis P. Fischer, James Waldo Fancette.

Subscription Price: One year, \$2. Six months, \$1. Single copy, 10¢. Postage 10¢ per copy. Advertising rates on Application.

The Editorial Board is not responsible for copy
material received in regular edition.

Copyright 1948

Kansas City, Mo., Friday September 26, 1948.

At the last meeting of the Board of Directors Allert B. Prashner "was elected business manager of the Workers' World. He will have charge of the financial affairs of the paper and will continue to do the publishing. Prashner's ability and experience in organization work are such as to guarantee that he will make a big success of the work with the co-operation of those who are interested in building up a big revolutionary weekly in the Midwest."

THE REASON WHY.

"When everything failed the bourgeoisie of Germany—when the army failed to stop the revolution, when the revolution was suppressed and they went out of the red flag—it was the right wing Socialists that saved them." These words of Robert Minor, who saw the German revolution defeated by the right wing socialists are a complete and sufficient answer to the question as to why we are not willing to make peace with their American counterparts and be "comrades" once again.

THE STEEL STRIKE.

The great Steel Strike is on. Those who had predicted that it would not last, that it would not succeed, that it would not be made through the A. F. of L. officials, that the President would intervene and that it simply could not have proved to be false prophets. It is true that all those things have tended to temporarily stop projected industrial outbreaks in the past, but it should be perfectly clear by now to even a superficial observer that the workers in all the industries are getting beyond the control of the capitalist class. At a fair estimate, the number of a million men are out in the steel industry. The strike is ostensibly to enforce the recognition of the unions by the Steel Trust, but behind that demand is the demand of the workers for a little more of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

It is very clear that the steel strike wiped out in blood every attempt made by the workers to organize, but the steel workers, in these revolutionary times, are moving together with the workers in other industries towards industrial democracy. In ignoring the President's appeal to postpone the strike until after the election, the workers have repudiated the efforts of the politicians who have rushed to the aid of the steel trusts.

The strike is a sign of things. Throughout the country the workers are rising. Betrayed again and again by the mis-leaders of labor they nevertheless grow towards the light.

Though the fight is bitter, and though the Pennsylvania Cos. have already baptized the strike in blood the slaves of the steel industry will win their fight if the working class stands by them.

"Recognition of the union" is not the real issue in the steel strike.

The issue is whether the workers shall remain utter abject slaves or take the control of their destiny in their own hands.

THE STRIKE FACTORS.

We are accustomed to say that there are two sides to an industrial struggle—the workers and the bosses. But there is an other factor. It is, however, not the "public" because this mysterious element has no separate interest of its own, it being divided into two distinct parts according to class interests. That part of the public which lives by working has nothing in common with the other part which lives by exploitation. To lump them both together and say that they are one is like packing cabbage leaves in a fancy box and labeling them cabbages—it doesn't make it.

The third party to the modern strike is the craft union officialdom. In those cases where they do not operate consciously in the interest of the workers, they do so in the interest of the fate of the workers because they have a special interest in their own to defend. And it is their peculiar function to keep that special interest in the foreground. Craft union officialdom has no more concern for the welfare of the actual workers than our four cent President has for the "Democracy" he used to talk about. Their objective is not higher wages or shorter hours, but a large membership in their unions with plenty of money coming in from dues.

That is why we see the energy of the workers, in strikes which they engineer, diverted from the concrete issue of immediate concessions from the bosses into the blind alloy of "recognition of the union" with the consideration of the other pressing needs of the strikers deferred to some later date. "Recognition of the union" implies that every craftsman in the shop will be com-

elled by the boss to join the union. As soon as this condition prevails the officials set about the task of making the union strike proof so as to insure the continuous flow of money from dues into the treasury. Thereafter, there are no more strikes if the leaders can prevent it. Under this arrangement the workers get "recognition," the officials get fat salaries and the boss gets a strike proof shop.

What is the remedy for this condition? There are two. One is the organization of the workers into industrial unions on a non-sectarian basis. The other remedy, where the first is not possible, is effected by the development of the shop committee system whereby the workers on the job function as an organized body, dealing directly with the bosses and independent of the officials of the union.

Such Simple Things

(After the Simple Things)

They did such SIMPLE things
in Hungary.

Things that looked SENSIBLE

To simple people

1. The thousand and operas

Under one roof.

Under one roof.

With different grain in each

And the best mills running

All the time.

And the others shut down.

2. SHAVING COAL

IV. The people who had

Lots of MONEY

Were buying up shoes

And the clothes

And the good things of life;

And there wasn't enough

To go 'round'

• "Wh., this isn't SENSIBLE."

Said the people.

"We will attend these liars

Draw from their own money

5. In the BANK

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • • • •

• • •