

National Conference July 15th to Unify Miners' Forces for Struggle

By WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

At the last meeting of the Central Rank and File Strike Committee, National Miners' Union, a decision was made to invite to the meeting of the Strike Committee, on July 15, representatives from all the important coal fields of the country, for a joint session.

The purpose of this meeting is to work out a national program of demands, to strengthen the local strikes and other struggles of the rank and file miners, and unite them into a unified national movement, and to develop a united front to carry on this general struggle successfully.

Necessity Emphasized By Action of Hoover

The great importance of this conference is indicated by the fact that practically in every district in the coal industry the workers are conducting strike or other movements not only against the coal operators, but also against the U. M. W. misleadership. This indicates a situation of discontent and revolt amongst the miners throughout the entire coal industry, and also shows the need for giving the movement a definite prog-

ram and real leadership.

The necessity for the proposed joint meeting, is further emphasized by the activities of the Hoover Government in the coal industry. Doak and Lamont, of the Labor and Commerce Departments respectively, are now proceeding to organize a get together of coal operators and the U. M. W. A. The purposes of this combination are already plain—to trustify and rationalize the industry at the expense of the workers, and to entrench the U. M. W. A. so that the workers may be forced down still more into slavery conditions.

The Pittsburgh papers, which close—
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ly reflects the views of the coal operators, are highly enthusiastic over proposals of Doak, Lamont and Lewis. They have been carrying on a systematic campaign to this effect ever since the present strike started. They make no bones about showing that this is the way they aim to fight the National Miners' Union. In the Pittsburgh Post Gazette for example, on July 2, the plan to "rebuild the United Mine Workers of America" and to "stabilize the industry" are said to be the logical method of straightening out the tangle which has so far caused great losses and a strike of over 30,000 miners in the Penn. Ohio and W. Va. fields.

In addition to strengthening the local strike movements in Ill., Ky. W. Virginia, Penn., Ohio, etc., a task of the National Miners' meeting on July 15, must be developed the program of the Rank and File miners nationally as against the enslavement policies of Hoover Government the coal operators and their tool Lewis and Company.

In order to bring a representative delegation to Pittsburgh on July 15th, it is necessary that all our forces in the coal industry everywhere be awakened to the importance of this situation and to put the question squarely before the U. M. W. A. miners, unorganized miners, minorities, in the old unions, etc., and to see to it that delegations are organized in the respective fields. The meeting on the 15th, will be historically important in the coal industry.

While organizing this delegation we must not lose sight of the question of collecting relief for the striking miners of W. Va., Ohio, and W. Pa. Over 100,000 people involved in this strike are actually hungry. It is the great task of every militant worker in America to rally to the support of these workers' fight by utmost activity in collecting relief.

Send all relief to Penn-Ohio Miners' Relief Committee, Room 517, 611 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.