

UNION LEADER WARNS MINERS IN ANTHRACITE

Papcun Shows Danger Facing Coal Diggers

By GEORGE PAPCUN.

It is now over two months since the special district convention in District 1 was held in which the Brennen, McGarry, Harris forces were the dominating factors and which expelled and removed Cappellini as president of District 1. It is very important for the miners of District 1 to take into consideration the action of the new district officials as it has become more evident that they will not carry out even the weak program which they adopted at the special convention because of being forced by rank and file. Immediately after the convention and even now in spite of the onslaught by Lewis against them the Harris, Brennen, McGarry and Issac combination still thinks that Lewis will recognize them, are still spreading the illusions among the miners about Lewis, saying that Lewis is different from Cappellini. Outside of establishing headquarters, the McGarry, Harris combination has done nothing.

Discrimination Remains.

The discrimination against the rank and file willing to fight is being intensified by the old officials and the coal operators. The contractors system still remains and is spreading rapidly. The Pennsylvania Coal Co. has again locked out the miners of the No. 6 colliery, the unemployment situation is getting worse, there is a general worsening of the conditions and wage cuts are taking place, yet the new district officials refuse to put up a fight and lead the miners in the struggle against these deplorable conditions. The rank and file thruout District 1 is ready for a fight. This has been demonstrated by the fact that many local unions have refused to pay the special assessment to the Lewis machine, and in many cases are sending money direct to the rank and file in the soft coal strike districts. There is the other proof that many local unions are daily on strike against the grievances which confront them.

The left wing in Pittston has shown up McGarry for what he actually is to the miners of Pittston. Here where the miners are the first to be attacked, the McGarry forces are doing nothing, the left wing presented a resolution for a general strike of all the Penn. coal miners. While the rank and file was for the resolution, McGarry saw fit not to bring the resolution to a vote.

McGarry is allowing the Penn Coal Co., the contractors and the Cappellini-Lewis-Kennedy machine to starve, demoralize and whip the miners into submission. The new district officials have consistently fought against the national movement of the miners to destroy the Lewis, Murray, Kennedy machine, and are at this time, though not openly, fighting against the National convention, which is to be held in Pittsburgh, Sept. 9 to 16.

Miners Must Fight.

The miners of the anthracite, particularly of District 1, must fight and force the new officials to fight for the National convention, and for the building of a new miners' union. The miners must understand that the movement cannot be limited to kicking out Cappellini, who is but a part of the Lewis machine. The whole machine must be kicked out. The so-called leaders must give up their scramble for office in District 1 with which they are destroying the miners' union. The miners must also ask why it is that the new district officials do not concern themselves with the condition of the miners in District 1. Why is it that the new officials are not preparing for the time of struggle when the operators will try to destroy the miners' union completely in the anthracite. It must be clear to everyone that the operators today are preparing to deliver the final blow to the miners' union at the expiration of the 5 year agreement or even sooner. The miners must also ask the new district officials why they are so anxious to form a new anthracite miners' union separated from the soft coal, as it is a well known fact that a union separated from the soft coal miners will tend to become a company union used by the company to promote their own purposes.