

PAPCUN OUTLINES BITTER FIGHT IN BIG TRI-DISTRICT

Shows Miners Will Win Struggle

PITTSTON, March 30.—Local 1703, center of the revolt against the Lewis machine, will repudiate the orders of Lewis that all miners return to the contract mines of the Pennsylvania Coal Company.

This was the indication today following the receipt of the official communication from Washington. Frank McGarry, chairman of the local announced that the contents of the Lewis order would remain secret. McGarry is one of the Brennan followers, designated as "those who have no program."

The anthracite conflict is outlined as follows by George Papcun, secretary of the Tri-District Save-The-Union Committee:

* * *

By GEORGE PAPCUN.

Tri-District Struggle.

The anthracite has become the scene of struggle at this time where revolvers, rifles and machine guns have been used and where the electric chair is being prepared in an attempt to smash the opposition to the official machine in the union.

Already Thomas Lillis, Alex Campbell and Peter Reilly, members of Local 1703 have been murdered because they have been leaders in the struggle opposing the quadruple alliance of the coal operators, the contractors, the union officials and the state. "Big Sam" Grecio also was assaulted and while he is now recovering it is not yet certain that he will.

The trouble at No. 6 Colliery started when the Pennsylvania Coal Co. tried to introduce the mechanical loader in combination with the individual contract system which has been enforced at that mine and which the miners thruout the anthracite region have continually opposed but which the officialdom has sanctioned, permitted to continue.

A Program of Murder.

Not satisfied with the murder of these brothers, the official machine today is trying to send Sam Bonita, Adam Moleski and Steve Mendola to the electric chair. These miners have been indicted for murder because they defended themselves against the Cappellini machine gunman, Frank Agati who was an organizer on the payroll of the miners' union of District 1 and a personal bodyguard of Cappellini. While drawing pay from the union, Agati was at the same time a contractor in the No. 6 Colliery. Agati was killed when he fired upon the committee which was composed of Bonita, Moleski and Mendola, representing Local Union 1703 and which had come for the purpose of settling the grievances which prevailed at that time and still exist in that local union.

A Frame-up.

In spite of the fact that Bonita, Moleski and Mendola gave themselves up willingly, the state immediately in alliance with Cappellini, the contractors and the coal company proceeded to put the machinery of so-called justice into motion and are preparing to railroad Bonita, Moleski and Mendola to the electric chair.

On February the 20th, "Big Sam" Grecio, another insurgent and who is one of the leaders of the Save-the-Union Committee was also attacked and is only now recovering. As yet the state seems unable to find who made the attack tho there are clues to the guilty ones.

On February 28th, Alex Campbell and Peter Reilly, outstanding leaders of Local 1703, and the symbols of the struggle in the district against the individual contract system were brutally murdered in broad daylight. Yet no arrests have been made. The district is aroused over these killings. The membership not only in District one but thruout the tri-district and the international union is aroused over the killing of these miners and now is carrying on a struggle to wipe out the system, and to eliminate the reactionary machine which is responsible for these killings.