

CALL NEEDLE TRADES LEFT WING TO CONFERENCE JANUARY 30: BIG PROBLEMS CONFRONT THE UNIONS

NEW YORK CITY, Jan. 26.—In no other industry has the work of the Trade Union Educational League proved so much wide influence as in the needle trades. Many battles have been fought in the past, and now a new problem has arisen, concerning which the Needle Trades Section of the T. U. E. L. has issued the following call to the workers in that industry:

Follow Program:— A tremendous struggle of major importance involving the participating of conditions and
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Needle Trades Conference Jan. 30th

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the existence of our organizations is impending in the needle industry. A united front against the bosses upon the program of the left wing is necessary, if the unions are to wage it successfully.

Oppose Organization.

Nevertheless a number of reactionary bureaucrats who were forced by the rank and file to abandon their war against the membership are trying to sabotage the organization work being carried on by the left wing. They hope thereby to undermine the morale of the workers, to prevent effective organization work from being accomplished and to create conditions for the defeat of the workers.

They are assuming that defeat will so undermine the leadership of the left wing as to enable them to regain their hold upon these organizations where the militants are in control. Against this menace the militants must be on the watch and prepared to fight to the end.

Menace of Collaboration.

Much more dangerous than the sabotage of the disgruntled, defeated reactionary bureaucrats are the actions of the officialdom of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, the largest union in the needle industry. When the other unions are preparing to take up a struggle to improve the workers' conditions this union under the leadership of Sydney Hillman, accepts without a struggle wage cuts, reduction in working forces, speeding up of production, etc. In addition the amalgamated is introducing into the needle trades the Nash agreement.

Applying the Nash agreement to the whole industry is the great danger facing the workers because it is a typical class collaboration agreement. It runs for a period of three years with arbitration during that period. It recognizes the right of the boss to hire and fire. It legalizes the open shop by allowing the boss to hire non-union help. It does not provide for a minimum wage scale, and accepts a wage scale that ranges from \$17.00 to \$25.00.

Hillman Complete Reactionary.

The Hillman administration is advocating such agreements in the name of industrial democracy. The Nash agreement shows to what a reactionary level the Amalgamated has fallen. In addition, the Hillman administration is a bitter and unscrupulous opponent of the left wing. The Hillman administration pursues everywhere a policy of terrorism and gangsterism against the left wing.

The Hillman administration, bent on continuing at peace with the boss

es is determined to crush the left wing. These actions and policies of Hillman make the fight of the rank and file in the Amalgamated the fight of the greatest importance to the entire needle trades.

It would be an error for the needle workers in all branches of the industry to underestimate the effect of the policies and practices of the Amalgamated. On the one hand it gratifies the bosses and on the other hand it results in increasing misery for the workers. It is necessary also in order to consolidate the gains of the left wing in the needle trades that its victory be completed by dealing a death blow to the Hillman administration. All forces must unite for this purpose.

We therefore, call upon all progressive locals and groups in the needle trades to send delegates to a conference to devise ways and means of combining morally and financially the strength of the entire movement for the left wing fight in the amalgamated.

Basis of representation is: Two for small minority groups; five for large minority groups; five from small locals with 800 members or more and as many as the executives see fit to send from big locals of 2,000 or more.

The conference takes place January 30, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon at Central Opera House, 67th street and Third avenue.

With fraternal greetings,

National Committee Needle Trades

Section T. U. E. L.

JOSEPH ZACK, Secretary.

R. R. Detective Shoots Man Who Gathered Fuel in Railway Yard

By STANLEY BOONE.

DETROIT—(FP)—Shot by a Michigan Central railroad dick while gathering discarded wood in the yards for fuel, Jacob Galek, father of five children, is near death in the Detroit receiving hospital with an abdominal wound. Galek was not stealing ties or other material used in construction but picking up odds and ends strewn along the tracks,—sticks and broken or discarded boxes. Detroit is in the grip of zero weather.

The Ford Motor Co., where Galek works, teaches fathers to be self-reliant and discharges them if they are garnished for inability to pay fuel or other bills. Carl Arnold, the railroad detective, called to Galek in a threatening manner and Galek ran. He was "near some cars," according to the officer. The officer discharged his pistol and Galek, naturally, ran