

RED INTERNATIONAL OF LABOR UNIONS REVIEWS 5 YEARS' LIFE; CALLS FOR UNITY IN STRUGGLE

MOSCOW, July 18—(By Mail)—The Executive Bureau of the Red International of Labor Unions publishes the following appeal entitled "Five Years of the R. I. L. U.":

"In July 1920, the second congress of the Communist International took place in Moscow and on this occasion the representatives of the red trade unions and the revolutionary minorities in Italy, Jugoslavia, Bulgaria, Spain and France met with the Soviet unions to discuss the organization of all revolutionary elements of the international trade union movement.

"The International Trade Union Federation formed after the war at Amsterdam, was attempting to sell the workers to the League of Nations and to reconcile them with the capitalist system. The Soviet trade unions were blocked by the reformists and all efforts were made to suppress the victorious proletarian revolution in Russia.

"At its formation the Amsterdam International consisted of approximately 25 millions of workers. In the course of its six years of activity it has lost about 10 millions of workers, so that today it has only some 15 million members.

"The Versailles peace treaty, the general offensive of the employers against the working class in all parts of the world, and finally the Dawes plan, have made the conditions of the toilers ever worse.

"The Amsterdam International, however, made no efforts to mobilize the whole forces of the international trade union movement for the struggle against the attacks of the bourgeoisie. On the contrary, it considered it its task to disrupt the international trade union movement.

"Parallel with the attacks of the imperialist states upon the republic of the Russian workers and peasants, the attacks of the Amsterdam Trade Union International against the revolutionary trade unions in all countries were carried on.

"The R. I. L. U. has always struggled for the unity of the international trade union movement and has regarded it as its most important task to mobilize the forces of the trade union organized masses for the struggle against international capitalism. Already at its official inaugural congress in 1921 this aim was the chief point in the discussions.

"The second congress of the R. I. L. U. occupied itself in the first place with the organization of the revolutionary forces in the international trade union movement, whilst the third congress last year concentrated chiefly upon the reestablishment of trade union unity.

"When the Amsterdam International Federation of Trade Unions was formed, only small groups of workers in the various countries were dissatisfied with the reformist policy of the Amsterdam leaders. In the course of time, however, strong groups of revolutionary trade unions have formed themselves in all countries, and today almost one-third of the members of the International Federation of Trade Unions are in the opposition.

"A strong left wing has just been formed in the Amsterdam Trade Union International. The present chairman of the I. F. T. U., the leader of the English trade unions, Alfred Purcell, is a friend of the Russian unions. He assists the aim of the Anglo-Russian unity committee, is in favor of the affiliation of the Russian unions to the I. R. T. U. and supports the idea of the organization of all unions in one united International.

"Since its existence the Amsterdam International has been a European International, whilst the R. I. L. U., apart from the Soviet Union, counted the trade union committees of China and Java, a few countries in South America and North Africa, the Balkan countries, France and Checho-Slovakia and strong revolutionary minorities in all important industrial countries of the world amongst its members and supporters.

"The roots of the R. I. L. U. reach back to the period before the war when small troops of revolutionary trade unionists existed in Russia, Germany, France, Spain, Italy and in a few other countries. During the world war not only the political working class movement was reborn at the conferences of Zimmerwald and Kienthal, but also the revolutionary trade union movement.

"In the five years of its official existence, the R. I. L. U. has achieved

Executive Committee



1) A. Losovsky, secretary; 2) Monm
5) Dimitrov (Bulgaria); 6) Andre N

a great amount of revolutionary work and it has experienced very much. Very much work has been done, but still more remains to be done.

"We must concentrate all our forces upon the strengthening of the revolutionary trade union movement and upon the struggle for the establishment of the unity of the trade union movement as the preparation for the social revolution.

"Down with international imperialism and its reformist helpers!

"Long live the fraternal alliance of the revolutionary workers of the West and the suppressed peoples of the East!

"Long live the Red International of Labor Unions!

"Long live the unity of the international trade union movement!

Carmen's Bright Idea All to the Good, Only Union Must Keep Fund

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10—Decision by the general executive board of the Amalgamated Assn. of Street and Electric Railway Employees, to demand in all wage contracts henceforth that the employing company provide death and accident insurance and old age disability benefits, without cost, has been made public by the executive council of the American Federation of Labor with its tacit endorsement. If the union would control all funds, this would meet the only remaining left wing objection.

The streetcar men have been studying "welfare" schemes for the past year, and have determined that the inclusion of the ordinary insurance and retirement benefits should be accepted in all future contracts as a right of the employes. In this way they will remove the temptation of streetcar workers to trade their union affiliation for promises of a company pension.