

# The Pan-Pacific Labor Conference Rallies Millions for Common Struggle Against Imperialism

The convening of the Pan-Pacific Labor Congress, now in session in Hankow, means two things:

1. That the labor movements of the Pacific are preparing for common action against imperialism and colonial capitalism.

2. That the young Chinese labor movement by reason of its heroic struggle against both these forms of oppression, has been given the leadership of this great joint movement by common consent.

The Pan-Pacific Labor Conference, following closely upon the world conference of colonial peoples in Brussels to organize the struggle against imperialism, is of the greatest historic significance. Not only is it the first conference of this kind to be held (the only other effort in this direction being a conference of transport workers in Canton in 1924) but it convenes at a time when the Chinese labor movement is confronted with the task of organizing and leading the struggle for national liberation.

The hostility with which world imperialism regards this conference is shown by the arrest of the Japanese delegates and the refusal of visas by their government to the representatives of the Australian labor unions which sponsored the conference.

Planned for Canton originally the treason of Chiang-kai Shek and the armed aggression of imperialism in China made it necessary to remove the conference to Hankow—the industrial center of China and the stronghold of the revolutionary nationalist government.

The militant trade unionists of America, France and Great Britain are represented at the Conference and its sessions will formulate plans for linking up the labor movements of both the imperialist and colonial nations in a common struggle against world imperialism.

For the American workingclass, whose rulers are rapidly becoming the dominant factor in the Pacific, the Conference in Hankow is a call to action, side by side with the millions of colonial workers and peasants of the Philippines, China, Japan, Java, India and Korea.

The Conference marks a turning point in the history of the world labor-movement because it brings into the ranks of world labor in organized form the colonial and semi-colonial labor movements which the reformist leaders of the Amsterdam and Second International and the reactionary officialdom of the American labor movement have so far considered as unimportant factors to which no attention need be paid.