

# CHINA SWINGS TO LEFT

## Workers Revolt Against Fake Unions

(Ed. Note.—This is the sixth installment of the report of Sou Chao-jen, chairman of All China Labor Federation, delivered at the second session of the Pan Pacific Secretariat in Shanghai. The Daily Worker will publish the report in full because it is an excellent survey of general conditions prevailing in China.)

By SOU CHAO-JEN.

Another instrument of the bourgeoisie within the working class is the Mechanics Union in Canton and Hongkong. This union has a history and some masses. Formerly it had eight or ten percent of the workers; it grew out of a guild, is ruled by a small group of reactionaries who have always been in intimate relations with the reaction; it supported Chien Chung-ming when that militarist drove Dr. Sun Yat-sen out of Canton, and now it supports the new militarists who rule the Kuomintang. But although the leaders who rule this Union with Fascist methods are reactionary, the workers whom they control are not as bad.

### Long Strike.

A section of their members have been striking five months under our leadership.

The members therefore are now growing friendly to us and hostile to their leaders; they say "our leaders tell us to support the Kuomintang, but they get us nothing from the Kuomintang, the police oppress us and we receive no protection; they have led us on the wrong path," and "why oppose the Red trade unions and the Communists when they support us, and when we agree with their demands?" Another significant development in the Mechanics Union is seen among the dockworkers of Hongkong, who have been dominated by that Union.

### Force Action.

They had a movement in November against contracting and for a full money wage; the Mechanics Union opposed them, but our secret unions gave them help. A mass meeting adopted a resolution, proposed by us, forcing action; but the Mechanics Union, hypocritically bowing to this decision of the masses, secretly went to the Government of Hongkong and betrayed the leaders of the movement, and advised the government how to crush it. Then they stepped in, and accepted a settlement which they called a "compromise" in which the workers lost their demands but gained a few more minutes for lunch time.

The workers are enraged and see the treachery of the Mechanics Union leaders; now it is much easier to discredit this reactionary tool before the workers of Hongkong; although it still in Canton controls the arsenal and waterworks. But even there, the temper of the workers themselves may be seen in the fact that on December 11, 12 and 13, when the Soviet Power ruled in Canton, these workers continued their work without striking, and expressed their approval of our slogans. The entire strength of the Mechanics Union as a counter-revolutionary force lies not in any masses of workers, but in its military force, the so-called "Physical Culture Groups."

### Chiang's Tool.

A third tool has now been established in Shanghai by Chiang Kai-shek, known as the "Labor Federation." The "Labor Unification Committee" originally set up by him had been so thoroughly discredited that it was necessary to find a new instrument. It pretends to oppose the "Unification Committee" but in reality it is the same thing. It cleverly began with new tactics, offering to assist the strikers of the British-American Tobacco Co. (a strike begun by us). Under cover of a subsidy to the strikers, they arrested our leaders, and then compromised with the employers, getting a few insignificant concessions for the workers, and several million dollars for the government. When the workers bring forward demands, the new "Federation" is more prompt to attend, and tries to get some little gains. It uses the mask of reformism, and talks about establishing connections with Geneva and Amsterdam. Therefore it, like the Mechanics Union, is more dangerous than the "Reorganization Committees" and the "Labor Unification Committee."

## Labor Pioneer Dying



William D. Haywood (above), a pioneer fighter in the struggles of the American working class, is reported critically ill in Moscow. Haywood was for many years a leader in the left wing of the socialist and I. W. W. movements, but finally found his proper place as a militant in the ranks of the Communist Party. He was sentenced to 20 years for attacking the imperialist world war.

## CALLS SANDINO A NICARAGUAN HERO

MEXICO CITY, March 30. — At least ten thousand workers and peons would join the nationalist army under General Sandino, if the nationalists possessed enough arms, declared Carleton Beals, American journalist who arrived here after visiting Sandino's headquarters.

In spite of widely-circulated reports to the contrary, Sandino is extremely popular among workers and peasants, Beals said. Sandino's soldiers are not adventurers, but patriots, fighting for the independence of Nicaragua, he declared.

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