
Stand By the Miners of Mingo!

[leaflet of the unified CPA — circa Sept. 25 1921] †

Copy in DoJ/BoI Investigative Files, NARA M-1085, reel 942, file 202600-2265-96. Alternate copy reel 943.

Fellow Workers! Forty thousand miners of the Mingo region of West Virginia have for months been struggling for the right to live.

They have been fighting valiantly against greedy coal barons and hired thugs, gunmen, and spies.

The workers want a union to help them in their struggle against inhuman living conditions.

The capitalists and the corporation-owned County and State governments are doing all in their power to crush the miners and prevent their forming a union. This fight is a fight for the very right of existence. Driven on by the fierce oppression of the capitalists and their gunmen, thugs, and deputies, the nearby union members have arisen to the defense of their fellow-workers in the Mingo region.

The march of the union men was a march against the bitter repression and a defiance to all enemies of unionism.

Now, the Federal government is rushing to the aid of the coal barons.

Troops, airplanes, bombs, machine guns, and all the hellish devices of capitalist warfare have been rushed into the Mingo area.

These have supposedly been sent to save “law and order,” but they have actually been sent to crush the workers.

Workingmen and workingwomen! Miners and their families have been cruelly evicted from their homes!

Miners have been murdered by the Baldwin-Felts detectives and gunmen in the pay of the corporations!

The State Constabulary and Deputy Sheriffs have beaten and clubbed workers to death!

Strikers’ leaders have been indicted, killed, and murdered!

Their wives and children are being starved!

Fellow workers! You must come to the aid of your struggling brothers of West Virginia!

You must stand by the miners of Mingo! Their fight is your fight!

They are fighting against the vicious US Steel trust that runs the entire strike area.

They are fighting against a most tyrannical wage-slavery.

Their defeat will be your disaster. It will mean the “open shop” — open slavery to the whole country.

Force the hands of your leaders! Force your union leaders into action! Make Gompers, Lewis & Co., who have been too long shirking the struggle, toe the mark or get out!

It is high time that they do something and stop betraying your interests.

You cannot afford to delay. Force your leaders to compel the Federal government to disarm the murderous bandits — the Baldwin-Felts detective thugs. The gunmen must leave the strike area at once!

We must rise to the defense of our striking

†- The covering report by Agent J.F. McDevitt of the Philadelphia office of the Bureau of Investigation dated Sept. 27, 1921, notes that a meeting was held in the Camden, New Jersey, Sub-District to plan this leaflet’s distribution on Sept. 25. The SDO in Camden was a Bureau of Investigation undercover operative, Francis A. Morrow, Agent K-97.

brothers.

We must everywhere organize meetings and demonstrations to help the Mingo fighters, financially and morally.

Let every union local and labor body force the Federal government to compel the profit-hungry coal magnates to go into conference with the miners.

Our slogan must be “Disarm the Baldwin-Felts spies, gunmen, and notorious guards!”

“Away with the Deputy Sheriffs and State Constabulary hirelings of the greedy corporations!” All murdering of miners must be stopped at once!

Fellow workers! Act before it is too late! A defeat at Mingo will go a long way toward driving the whole American working class into lower wages, longer hours, and endless drudgery.

Don't rely on the Federal and State governments to help you!

They won't give you a square deal. They are only brutal agents of the capitalist class.

The Federal, State, and County governments and their gunmen, thugs, spies, and White guards are fighting the battle of your exploiters and oppressors — the capitalists.

This capitalist dictatorship has already too often shown its ugly head for the workers to have any faith in it.

The miners' demand upon Harding for a conference has been met with bullets and gas

bombs.

Only organized, unified, countrywide working class action can stop the government committing outrages against the toiling [workers].

Remember how the workers were murdered at Ludlow, Calumet, Masaba Range, and McKees Rocks!

Workers! THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF AMERICA CALLS UPON YOU TO HELP YOUR STRUGGLING BROTHERS IN THE MINES OF WEST VIRGINIA.

To your task! All as one in the name of working class solidarity!

Stand by the miners of Mingo!

Down with the hired murderers!

From your unions, mines, mills, and factories rally to the defense of your enslaved West Virginia brothers!

The miners must have their union!

Rally to their cause which is your cause!

The miners fight for a union must be made the fight of all organized labor, of all the workers of America!

On to victory! On with the struggle!

**CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
COMMUNIST PARTY OF AMERICA.**

Edited with a footnote by Tim Davenport.

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