

REDS GROW REDDER IN LABOR PROTEST

And All Because Sam Gompers Invited Italian Mission to Visit Us.

BOURGEOISIE LAID FLAT

Comrades Nearing, Elizabeth Flynn and Other Near Bolsheviks Exercise Lungs.

Everything was as peaceful and decorous as a deaf mutes' conversation at the Central Opera House on East Fifty-seventh street, where radicals and super-socialists of Italian origin met yesterday to denounce and repudiate the Italian Labor Mission to the United States...

Far back in the rear of the big hall a single, piercing voice was heard. It wailed in high tenor that its owner was no capitalist, had no money and would contribute. Throughout the hall ten indignant men jumped to their feet to shout an order to the invisible tenor to look the other way when the hit was passed. Justly incensed by the action of the indignant ten in talking from the floor, a hundred men sprung up in every corner to tell them to sit down and shut up. Outraged by the breach of parliamentary law on the part of the hundred who were justly incensed by the action of the ten men who were indignant at the audacity of the tenor, a thousand men, anyhow, there were 2,000 men and women in the audience, and every last one of them voiced their interpretation of law and order.

All for the Want of a Nickel.

Up on the platform Carlo Tresca, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Vincenzo Vaccarella, Nicola Cuneo, Luigi Antonini, Arturo Giovannitti and half a dozen others were also pleading for law and order in voices strengthened by many years of pleading for other things. They set it after the audience had howled out the thousand who had rebuked the hundred who had cussed the ten who had tongue lashed him who was no capitalist.

If the tenor had had a nickel with him things probably would have been serene until a little later in the afternoon, for the scorching of the Italian Labor Mission as a group of turn-outs who represented no large group of organized Italian labor continued with fair order and bery vehemence. Although the Italian Labor Mission was the principal target of the speakers, the capitalist class—Samuel Gompers, who invited the mission over here; Paul Kelly, also known as Paolo Vaccarelli, formerly a gang leader, now an Italian labor leader, who met the mission at the pier; the Walling and Spargo group of Socialists—the capitalist class, the capitalist press and

the bourgeoisie also received scattering shots. Most of the speeches were in English ear the heights of denunciation reached came close to wrecking the altitude record.

A Comrade to the Fore.

More trouble developed shortly, and this time not even the united efforts of the audience could prevent disorder. The problem was solved by the quick wit and rare tact of the chairman of the meeting, Arturo Giovannitti, editor of the Liberator.

Giovannitti had just introduced Prof. Scott Nearing when a square jawed, stocky built man rushed to the front of the room and began talking. The chairman and audience in chorus told him to have a seat, but he persisted. An expletive man on the platform shouted "Police spy! Traitor!"

The interrupter, who later turned out to be Giacomo Menzies, comrade in good standing, seemed stung by the taunt. He turned around and easily swung himself up onto the platform, shoulder high above the floor. The cry was not repeated, but the chairman and others on the platform endeavored to lead him aside so that Nearing could start speaking. He was shoved toward the rear of the platform, but came back strong and started speaking in a voice which under normal circumstances would have filled the hall. The hall, however, was already well filled by the advice, directions and comment of the 2,000.

Then it was that the diplomacy of Giovannitti flashed out. Turning from Menzies he wrenched off his coat and threw it on the floor. Then he seized the huge white pitcher full of ice water in his right hand and held it menacingly. The gesture stilled the clamoring hundreds, for the pitcher was of a thickness with the crockery in the lunch rooms of the proletariat and bourgeoisie.

Comrade Nearing Generalizes.

So Scott Nearing began speaking. Comrade Menzies retired to the rear of the platform. Mr. Giovannitti returned the pitcher to a place on the table without comment. In his address Nearing confined himself to generalizations. He accused capitalists of having set nation against nation in order to maintain their grip on the working people and to prevent international socialism.

"The people in Russia have seen the light," he said. "The workers in the United States are beginning to get glimmerings of the light in spite of Burleson and the Creel bureau."

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn said that the Gompers commission which visited Europe have said much of their visits to the Kings of Great Britain and Italy but little of their reception among the working people.

"In order to cover up the fact that they were not as well received as they expected," she said, "they have invited this Italian mission which was welcomed here only by Irish and American labor men and by Paul Kelly—Paul Kelly."

She charged that the members of the mission, headed by Alceste de Ambris, represented in Italy a little creation of their own. No real representatives of either American or Italian laborers would be permitted by the authorities to leave either Italy or the United States, she added. There must have been some of the horrid bourgeoisie present, for more

than \$250 was collected. This will be used to further the campaign against the Italian Labor Mission. Resolutions were adopted stating that their mission in America is a "subtle and poisonous propaganda for the imperialistic and militaristic aims of the Italian monarchy."

"In this glorious epic moment in which the proletariat of the world is rising in arms for the integral conquest of all natural rights, and in the imminence of the social revolution in Italy," the resolutions state, "the work of the so-called Labor Mission cannot have any other aim but the division and demoralization of the hosts of our militant American working class; and that of propping up the tottering columns of bourgeois domination of which Samuel Gompers is the main pillar."

AUTOMOBILES INCREASE 60,000.

Hugo's Report Makes the Present Total in State 460,000.

Special Dispatch to THE SUN.

ALBANY, Dec. 15.—An increase of 60,000 motor vehicles in New York State this year is shown by a report issued by Secretary of State Francis M. Hugo to-day. The number of cars in the State is now 460,000, of which 365,000 are passenger cars and 75,000 are trucks. The number of chauffeurs increased more than 13,000, making the total 142,000.

New York city in ten months collected \$148,000 in fines from violators of the motor laws. Of nearly 7,000 persons arrested for these offenses 503 were committed to jail without the alternative of a fine and 171 went to jail in default of paying fines.

ACCUSES ANOTHER IN SLAIN GIRL MYSTERY

Piper Says Friend Used His Name to Wed Victim.

MUSKOGON, Mich., Dec. 15.—Milo H. Piper, a wealthy insurance man, was brought back to Muskogon to-day to face a charge of having killed Frieda Weichman, whom he is said to have married, although he already had a wife and child.

Piper, who was arrested at Hamilton, Ont., told the police to-day he was innocent and accused a mysterious "John Sheldon" of having used his name to marry Miss Weichman despite his protest. Piper said Sheldon threatened him with trouble if he said anything about it, so he decided to remain silent.

Piper's arrest yesterday barred the story of a two year effort to solve a baffling mystery.

In 1915, it is charged, Piper met Miss Frieda Weichman at a Chicago tennis club.

Early in September, 1916, section hands in Eggleston township, Michigan, came upon a freshly turned grave near a railway crossing. It contained the body of a girl clad in a nightdress, a skirt and a sweater jacket.

U. S. NAVAL GUARDS SHOOT 2 MEXICANS

Gunner's Crew of Monterey Rescues Mate From Tampico Customs Men.

BEGAN IN MIXUP ASHORE

State Department Takes Up Case—Liner's Passengers Tell the Story.

Passengers by the Ward liner Monterey, in yesterday from Tampico by way of Havana and Nassau, brought a story, unrelayed by wire or correspondence and therefore brand new to this part of the continent of a clash between an armed naval force of the

ship and Mexican customs guards at Tampico on the morning of November 28, in which one of the Mexicans, said to be an officer, was killed and one badly wounded.

Washington verified last night the essential features of the story, about which the officers of the Monterey and the naval guard declined to say anything because the subject is in course of diplomatic settlement.

The State Department declares that the Mexicans "started the disturbance" by attacking Chief Gunner's Mate Berry, in charge of the naval guard.

Held Up by an Axtee Gang.

Berry was returning to his ship and was halted by Mexicans, who insisted that he should treat them, much as a New York gang might do to a passing stranger looking as if he might be prosperous enough to have the wherewithal to work the growler. Berry declined to quench the Axtee thirst and there was a mixup, in which the odds were so overwhelming that Berry made a strategic retreat toward the Monterey.

A squad of Mexican customs guards held up the chief gunner's mate, who disputed their right to do so. One of

the guards hit the bluejacket on the head with the butt of a rifle. This all occurred within sight of the Monterey, according to passengers, and it did not take long for the armed shipmates of Berry to hustle ashore with bayonets fixed and advance toward the armed Mexicans, who opened fire on the Americans. A volley answered the Mexican fire and two men fell. One, said to be commander of the squad, was killed instantly and the other was badly wounded. The rest of the guard fled and Berry returned to the ship with his men.

Liner's Gun Stops Hostilities.

The firing drew a crowd to the neighborhood of the Monterey and threats were made against the Americans, but the lean naval gun on the deck of the liner, naked and ready for business, the grim aspect of the blue-jackets and the nearness of two Yankee gunboats restrained whatever hostile feeling the Mexican guards' friends might wish to translate into physical force.

After considering the case from a purely Mexican viewpoint the authorities of Tampico decided that the proper thing for the skipper of the Monterey to do was to turn over to them the chief gunner's mate and his men.

skipper held otherwise and the Monterey sailed for her home port twenty-four hours later. There was no demonstration against her.

Meanwhile the Mexican Government called attention to the killing of the customs guard to our State Department, which started an investigation. When the Monterey docked yesterday morning her skipper and officers were questioned by the naval authorities and the gunner's mate and his men went to the New York Navy Yard and turned in their official report. Washington said the "whole subject had been left to diplomatic settlement through the State Department."

BADGE FOR FLYING TEACHERS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Army aviation instructors have been authorized by the War Department to wear on the left arm a sleeve decoration consisting of gilt wings the same size as those in the insignia on the collar decoration. This award, it was announced to-day, "is made in appreciation of the services of the several hundred fine fliers who have been kept at home for use on the flying fields of this country in turning out the quota of pilots asked for by the Allies."

SURETY BONDS FIDELITY-SURETY CONTRACT-JUDICIAL BURGLARY TALKS ON BONDING No. 30. "Without Resorting to Technicalities" One of the largest and finest hotels in one of our largest cities has added its testimony to that of many others: "Permit us to acknowledge with thanks your check covering our first claim presented under the Bond of our former auditor, and also the receipt of the additional amount covering the additional shortage, and to thank you for your promptness and efficiency. It is worthy of notice that this claim from the first has been handled by you without resorting to technicalities of any kind." This brings to a close the present series of voluntary testimonial letters. We would continue the series indefinitely, as our files are full of such letters and new ones are continually received. If the thirty letters which we have published have proven anything, they have proven that the reputation of this Company for prompt and efficient handling of just claims against us is as strongly established as the rock of Gibraltar. This will mean something to you, when you require a Bond. 40 Branch Offices in the Larger Cities. Over 1,000 Local Agents and Attorneys.

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Peace Work for War Workers

Shall the mighty machinery of power which won the war be "scrapped?" How can the millions of soldiers, millions of women, great factories, vast capital, compelling energy mobilized for war, be employed to conquer the problems of peace?

How shall our industries be readjusted? How shall our man-power and woman-power be distributed? How shall business meet the new conditions? How shall war taxes be revised? How shall the great fleet of ships be owned and profitably engaged in developing America's foreign trade? What new fields for investment will be opened in Europe?

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