

An Appeal To Left Wing Labor Un

By J. J. D'Arcy.

FELLOW WORKERS:—

The American Federation of Labor is breaking up. As we all well know, many of the locals in the Garment trades withdrew in 1912 and formed the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. The taking of the Charter from Local 460 I. A. of M., of New York City, caused many other locals of machinists throughout the Country to withdraw and form the Amalgamated Metal Workers. Old Local 72 of Textile Workers after a long and successful strike against not only their employers but also their labor officials, together with many others throughout the Country brought about the birth and growth of the Amalgamated Textile Workers. The stand taken by millionaire officials of the railroad Brotherhoods has caused the formation of an outlaw railroad union. The failure of the machine controlled United Mine Workers to protect and advance the interests of its dues paying members has led to an insurgent union movement among the miners.

The above, Fellow Workers, merely records a few of the many failures of the A. F. of L., but before we dismiss the matter with a smile of contempt for the organization which has long misled the workers, it might be well to ask ourselves a question: "Are we, as we stand now, any better able to protect and promote the interests of the workers." Undoubtedly, different from the A. F. of L., we are sincere. Our sincerity is not even questioned, but what is absolutely open to question is whether we have the economic power to protect our workers, in view of the conditions which will be hereafter set forth. The answer is that we have not!!! We cannot as Amalgamated Garment Workers, as Amalgamated Textile Workers, Amalgamated Metal Workers, or as Outlaw Railroad Workers, or as Insurgent Miners, or as I. W. W. alone, do anything to advance the interests of the workers as a whole, in the face of present conditions, which are as follows:

Thousands of mills are closed. Millions of workers are out of employment. Mills are continuing to close—more men and women are continually being thrown into the ranks of the unemployed. This condition threatens the existence of our or-

ganizations, if they continue to present, and the progressive labor must therefore address itself to what to do in this crisis of unemployment. Tactics will not solve the problem in our individual groups are powerless to cope with the situation, so this show our progressiveness, by uphold the interests of the working class to be greater than our own personal interests. At the end, however, the interests of the class as a whole are identical with our interests. There is only one way, however, to prove that we do so represent the interests of the workers. That is, by fighting the class struggle single-handed to a well deserved defeat, in one powerful, progressive, centralized, to an overwhelming victory. This appeal is realized by practically every member of our organizations, but the necessary initial steps have yet been taken. The purpose of this appeal is being sent to every progressive organization in the Country is to initiate just such a struggle. The Workers, Soldiers and Sailors of America that it has a right to assume this duty. It is a delegated body, composed of representatives from the locals of the various organizations which it is addressing this appeal. If we can be merely the means of bringing about a victory we will be well content.

We must remember, that the disgruntled members of the A. F. of L., would long ago have left if they did not consider us powerful enough to protect their interests. Therefore, they stayed in an organization which is representing even themselves, merely for want of a better way to do. Therefore, the fact that we have secured them in the past, is as much due to neglect, as progressives, as it is to their progress. As soon as we are able to bring about a concert of action amongst ourselves, by uniting into one great, centralized, national, organization all the amalgamated unions, all the Independent unions and the I. W. W., the last chapter in the history of the American Federation of Labor