

"You'll Come Crawling Back in a Week"

By CYRIL V. BRIGGS,
(Relief Publicity Director.)

"YOU will come crawling back within a week!"

So the tariff-fattened mill bosses taunted their poorly paid and impoverished workers at the beginning of the walk-out of the 16,000 textile workers of Passaic and vicinity.

The bosses knew their workers could barely eke out a day-to-day starvation existence on the wretched wages paid them: \$11 to \$22.50 a week for family men. Saving even a dollar a week on such wages was wholly out of the question. The bosses were confident, therefore, that the strike would be short and would end in defeat for the workers. They sat back and made plans for another wage-cut when the workers would be forced by the hunger cries of their children to come "crawling back on their bellies begging to be taken back."

Wages Paid in Industry.

The textile workers are the lowest paid group in this country. The average wage of the unskilled textile worker is \$15 a week. The skilled workers—such as the loom fixers—of whom there are a few in each mill—receive from \$30 to \$40 weekly. An analysis of 447 weekly pay envelopes, chosen at random, shows that 22 per cent received between \$20 and 25 a week; the remainder receiving either less than \$10 or over \$25—mostly less than \$10. It was, no doubt, on the basis of these pay envelopes that the mill bosses made their cold-blooded calculation that their striking workers would be forced within a week to come "crawling back on their bellies, begging to be taken back."

Bosses Get an Education.

Their bourbon minds, totally incapable of conceiving of outside labor being intelligent and class-conscious enough to come to the aid of their revolting brothers in the textile slave mills, were to experience a rude awakening. And just as the splendid spirit of the strikers made futile the thousand acts of police violence and judicial tyrannies against the strike, so the rushing of relief to Passaic by labor unions and sympathetic organizations thwarted the plans of the bosses to starve the strikers back to the mills.

From Maine to California labor has rallied to the defense of these workers.

Relief Given Thousands.

As a result of labor's support of

and more families are forced to apply for relief.

Child Relief, Vital Factor.

Child relief is a vital factor in the struggle. The bosses' starvation offensive was primarily aimed at the children of the strikers for it would be the children who would suffer most grievously in the inability of the parents to provide food.

The children became the target of the bosses in their efforts to break

supply of the strikers' children.

Child Relief.

Early in the struggle the relief committee established two children's kitchens in the strike zone. At these kitchens one thousand children are fed daily, getting one nutritious meal a day, with fruit and milk. Over three thousand quarts of milk are distributed daily thru the relief milk stations.

Hundreds of children have been sent to summer camps during the last

Mohegan Colony, Peekskill, N. Y.

The departure of these children from the camps was used as the occasion for a bitter attack from four ministers of the gospel, all four members of the Citizens' Committee, who, forgetful of their master's reputed solicitude for little children, savagely denounced the mass departure of the children in automobile buses as an attempt to blacken the "fair" name of their city.

Victory Playground.

While these ministers were still foaming at the mouth in their ill-directed efforts to cut off child relief, the Victory Playground in Saddle River county, near Garfield, was opened for the strikers' children. This playground is well equipped and thoroughly up-to-date. There are showers for the kiddies, swings, see-saws, a sand house, basketball and handball courts, baseball diamond, etc. Games and plays are organized under the direction of experienced and capable leaders, who have donated their services for the summer. The carpentry and other work on the grounds was all done by the strikers, and the cost of equipping the playground was accordingly small.

The playground is also equipped with a children's kitchen and milk station, and the kiddies are here given a nutritious meal and lots of milk and fruit in between their games. Women of the United Council of Workingclass Housewives take care of the kitchen and milk station. The playground is visited by 1,000 children daily. They are picked up by buses at nine o'clock in the morning and taken back at four. Their mothers are released between these hours for the picket line and other essential strike duties.

Organized labor may well be proud of its relief work in the big textile strike. For the great rank and file of the American labor movement there was no holding-back, no hesitation, no betrayal of their revolting brothers, but a quick understanding of the issues involved and a ready and splendid response to the sufferings of the strikers. And, in this, the 23th week of the strike, there is no indication of any let-up on the part of organized labor in its support of relief, but rather a determination to back the strikers, thru the approaching settlement negotiations for which a way has been paved by Senator Borah, to the time when the strikers return to the mills, in victory and with a union.

To Victory Playground!



These strikers' children are about to board buses for Victory Playground.

the strike. The children assumed greater importance in the struggle, with the bosses trying to starve them on one hand and the workers, thru the general relief committee, doing their utmost to protect them from the bosses' starvation offensive.

Bosses Attack Relief.

The bosses were slow in realizing the importance of relief, but once the truth dawned upon them that they were being defeated on the relief front, the most desperate and subtle

month. A special campaign was made by the general relief committee to place children in the camps of sympathetic organizations and in the homes of working-class families, and four weeks ago the first group of four hundred was sent off. Fifty went to private homes, the others to the following camps: The International Workers' Aid camp at Bernardsville, N. J., the camp of the Modern School at Stelton, N. J., the Chatham Camp, Floral Hill, Chatham, N. Y., and the

Strikers' Children at Play



Competent leaders organize the games at Victory Playground so that the undernourished and run-down bodies of the Passaic textile strikers' children are strengthened. The General Strike Relief Committee needs Labor's aid to supply these children with milk and nutritious food.

strike relief, the general relief committee of textile strikers, with offices at 743 Main avenue, Passaic, has been able to supply relief to thousands of strikers' families and give milk and meals to the strikers' children most of whom are suffering from malnutrition.

At this time nearly four thousand strikers' families are being fed thru the four food stores supported by organized labor. Thousands of strikers have been provided with clothing and shoes, contributed by workers and distributed thru the relief committee's clothing store in the strike area. Food cards are issued on the basis of the size of the family, the highest denomination being \$10. Each application for relief is carefully investigated by a committee of strikers and only those families having absolutely no other resources are given strike relief.

The strain on the relief machinery becomes greater instead of decreasing as the struggle continues as more

attempts were made to cut off relief from the 16,000 striking textile workers and their families. Complaisant labor leaders were enlisted, and various agencies organized for the purpose. One of these, the Citizens' (Vigilantes) Committee launched a series of attacks on the strike and the strike leaders, cunningly aiming the bulk of its blows against strike relief. This committee of bankers, real estate sharks and other typical "business" men broadcasted statement after statement that these workers were not in need of strike relief; that there is no suffering among their families and that everything is normal and beautiful in the "fair" city of Passaic. The milk campaign for the strikers' kiddies was savagely assailed. Dry Ryan, head officer of Passaic, and a member of the Citizens' Committee, brazenly stated that these children were not in need of milk. This lie has been broadcasted far and wide by the Citizens' Committee in its frenzied efforts to cut off the milk

Victory Playground Is Open!



The opening of Victory Playground, where about 1,000 children are able to play and receive milk and other nourishing food, was acclaimed with joy by the strikers' children in Passaic. While parents picket the mills in their fight for better wages and working conditions, these children are building their minds and bodies for the struggles of the future.

Strike Tots Need Milk



The Passaic mill barons sought to break the strike by cutting off relief to these children. Every worker should see to it that these strike children get a constant supply of milk and nourishing food.

WCFL Radio Program

Chicago Federation of Labor radio broadcasting station WCFL, is on the air with regular programs. It is broadcasting on a 491.5 wave length from the Municipal Pier.

TONIGHT.

6:00 to 7:00—Chicago Federation of Labor talks and bulletins.
7:00 to 7:30—WCFL Studio Ensemble. Elena Moneak, director.
7:30 to 8:30—Clarence Sullivan, tenor; Al Scott's Harmony Kings; Vella Cook, contralto.
8:30 to 9:00—Moneak's Orchestra, music from Musical Comedy Shows.
9:00 to 9:30—Little Joe Warner, Erwin Berg, Jimmy Cairns, popular songs.
9:30 to 10:00—WCFL Synopators.

"Ma" Ferguson to Face Moody in the Run-Off Primaries in Texas

(Special to The Daily Worker)

AUSTIN, Tex., Aug. 12.—A technicality in the acceptance by Dan Moody, attorney general, of her challenge that she would resign immediately if he beat her by one vote in the primary was given by Mrs. Miriam A. Ferguson as the reason she has not yet fulfilled the terms of her challenge.

"I accept the challenge issued by Jim (Ma's husband) in his wife's name," is the phrase on which "Ma" bases her refusal to carry out her challenge terms. It is the phrase she says Moody used in accepting the def and Mrs. Ferguson claims that since the challenge was her own and not that of "Jim" her husband, and former governor, that the words did not constitute an acceptance.

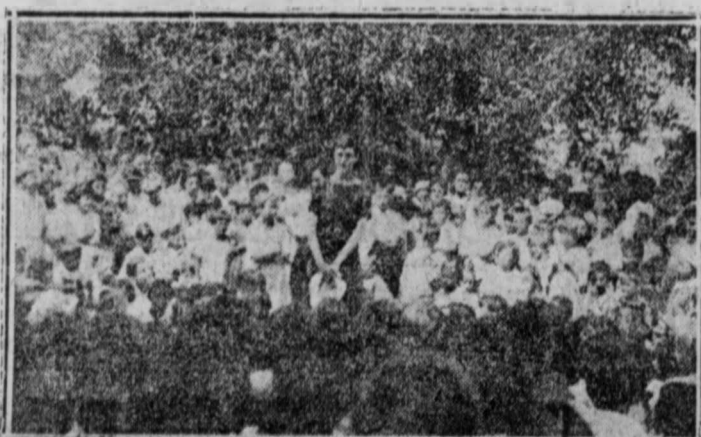
Moody had charged frequently during his campaign against Mrs. Ferguson that "Pa" who was impeached in 1917, was the real governor, and Ma merely figured as a "figurehead" behind which he continued "his rule of the stage."

The democratic nomination will now go to a run-off as the official count showed Moody 1,170 votes short of receiving a majority of all votes cast and the Dallas election board meeting recently certified both candidates.

Six Firemen Hurt in Oil Blast.

BALTIMORE, Md., Aug. 12.—Six firemen injured, more than 330,000 gallons of gasoline destroyed and other property damaged marked the toll today of a fire and a series of explosions which late yesterday wrecked the South Baltimore plant of the American Oil Company.

"The Greatest Thing Ever!"



"The greatest thing ever!" is the way the Passaic strike children characterize Victory Playground.