

FINAL CRISIS CLOSER, SAYS WM. Z. FOSTER

British Imperialism Is Crumbling

Wm. Z. Foster, secretary of the Trade Union Educational League and nationally known trade union militant was interviewed by The DAILY WORKER for his views on the general strike in Great Britain. Foster has only recently returned from Europe. He was in England when the present crisis was in its first stages and made a study of the labor movement in the British Isles.

"The present general strike in Great Britain," Foster said, "marks a tremendous step forward in the development of the working class intellectually and organizationally. Twenty years ago the capitalists of England lived in a fool's paradise, believing that the then conservative British workers would never take up with revolutionary ideas and actions. But a disintegrating British capitalism is revolutionizing the conceptions of the British workers and forcing them ever more to the left.

The Triple Alliance.

"In 1921, in the effort to swing the triple alliance in support of the striking miners, they gave their first concrete manifestation of the new and growing revolutionary spirit. But the Hodges and their like, petty bourgeois defenders of capitalism, still dominated the labor movement and were able to betray the workers in the historic Black Friday. Much water has run over the mill since then. A growing unemployment and constantly falling standard of living are forcing the working masses into action. They must fight and they will.

"The favorable report of the British delegation to Soviet Russia, the formation of the Anglo-Russian committee for world trade union unity, the rapid growth of the Minority Movement, and the successful resistance to the employers which culminated in

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Red Friday of 1925, were straws which indicated the coming of the present social storm. The British workers are breaking with capitalism. They have their eyes on Soviet Russia and are beginning to travel the revolutionary way of the Russian workers.

The Reformists.

"Even the Hendersons, McDonalds, Hodges, and other reformists are forced by mass pressure to support the strike at present. They fear the revolution as much as the employers do. But this time the militant elements in the working class are thoroughly organized and know the danger of reformist vacillation.

"The present great struggle in Great Britain brings the final crisis closer. It must result in greatly sharpening class antagonisms. The workers will become more class conscious, the employers more desperate. Win or lose, the strike is only one of the preliminary struggles preparatory to the final clash which will end British capitalism and result in the establishment of a Soviet Republic.

American Support.

"American workers must and will support their British brothers in this historic struggle. What is happening in Great Britain today is only a picture of what will happen in the United States in a very few years. There must be no coal shipped to England. There must no scab goods unloaded in America. The American workers must financially assist the British strikers. The fight of the British workers is our fight. It must be won."

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Foster will speak tonight at Northwest Hall at 8:00 o'clock, on European, Russian and American labor movements" under the auspices of The Trade Union Educational League.