

SEC'Y DAVIS SPURNED BY PENN LABOR

Delegates In Uproar Deny Vote of Thanks

By ABRAM JAKIRA.

(Special to The Daily Worker)

ALLENTOWN, Pa., May 14. Organized labor of the state of Pennsylvania, assembled in the annual convention of the Pennsylvania Federation, gave Secretary of Labor James J. Davis the most sensational turn down that that capitalist tool has yet received from a body of workingmen.

The turn down came in the opening session of the convention when the motion was put to give Davis a rising vote of thanks for his speech to the delegates.

A thundering chorus of "nays" drowned out the feeble cry of the Davis boosters and the session was adjourned in a storm of excitement.

Maurer For Davis.

To the surprise of those who had known President Jim Maurer's earlier

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SECRETARY DAVIS GETS PANNED BY PENNSY LABOR

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record, that official introduced Davis to the delegates as "one who worked himself up from the rank and file to an official in the cabinet" as a union man.

An icy atmosphere came over the convention as Davis took the floor and began to speak.

It was a speech that reeked with apologetics for the reactionary republican machine with which Davis is alligned—a speech that pleaded for harmony with the employers.

Attacks Foreign Born.

Davis tried to justify the new strike breaking immigration laws that he has helped to nurse thru both houses of congress. What is more, the former Welsh immigrant practically called on the delegates before him to act as spies on European working men who come here "illegally."

Silent as a clam about the brutal force his government uses towards workers who go on strike and ignoring the numerous injunctions his gang issues against organized labor, the strike breaking secretary of "Labor" begged the workers to have kindly feelings towards their employers—pleading for class collaboration.

"Money Is Not All."

"Money is not all in this world," weakly urged the representative of the multi-millionaires to the representatives of the men, who have to fight the bosses for each mouthful of food on their tables.

Davis concluded his Civic Federation speech and sat down. If he expected the working men present to respond to his palaver as Gompers and Alton B. Parker, are accustomed to do, he was mistaken.

Storm of Protest.

The delegates showed their resentment when a motion was made to give Davis a rising vote of thanks.

Working men rose to protest from different parts of the floor. Delegate Lever of Philadelphia, asked by what authority Davis was invited to speak.

Chairman Maurer tried in vain to close the incident and asked for yea and nay votes.

The hall reverberated with the thunder of "nays."

Davis begged for the privilege of making an explanation, which was granted.

Endorses Strike Breaking.

His explanation tried to explain Coolidge's activities in breaking the Boston police strike, saying he himself had endorsed the strike breaking telegram, and tried to defend the present administration's policies. Davis ended by challenging his opponents to debate.

It was a challenge that the outraged delegates took up quickly, but Davis didn't fight when the gage was accepted.

Scores of delegates rose to their feet, demanding the floor to answer Davis. The mover of the original motion insisted that the chairman had no right to call for a yea and nay vote when the motion called for a rising vote.

President Maurer adjourned the convention rather than let the rising vote against the labor secretary take place.

Merrick Accepts Challenge.

Delegate Fred Merrick of Pittsburgh, one of those who accepted Davis' challenge, has put his acceptance into the form of an official letter to Davis.

Important sessions of the state Farmer-Labor convention are taking place in the evenings, with the majority of the F. L. delegates also delegates to the State Federation of Labor convention.

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