

# REACTIONARY MINE UNION HEAD SEEKS TO PREJUDICE SENTIMENT BY SUSPENSION OF CORBISHLY

By MAX SHACHTMAN.

(I. L. D. Press Service.)

ZEIGLER, Ill., Nov. 29.—A new act of treachery against the men on trial now in the Zeigler frame-up was accomplished today by the Fox-Cobb-controlled sub-district executive board of the United Mine Workers. Recording Secretary George Thornton, of Zeigler Local 992, has received official notification from the sub-district president of the suspension for six months of Henry Corbishly, Matt Crnoevich, Frank Skibinski and Walter Bielsky.

The action is allegedly based upon charges presented to the sub-district executive board by "Lige" Walker, Farrington's special agent in Zeigler, against the signers of a leaflet entitled "The Facts About Zeigler." The charges had been previously thrown out by the trial committee of the local union. The leaflet contained an effective and truthful story of the incidents leading up to the latest occurrence in Zeigler and placed the blame for the matter on the shoulders of those to whom it belonged.

## Part of Frame-up.

"Everyone knows why this decision was made right now," declared Henry Corbishly, deposed president of the local and one of the leading defendants in the case. "The Farrington machine wants to show in court we're such bad disrupters of the union that we had to be suspended for six months, and in this way they hope to prejudice the judge and jury against us. The same men who are behind our frame-up are behind this suspension.

"It's significant that when we await a decision on some question of wages or of the checkweighman affecting the interests of the miners it takes from two to three months, in spite of the fact that the sub-district office at West Frankfurt is less than an hour away from Zeigler. This suspension decision was made a little over a week ago and is timed to take place just before the actual opening of the trial.

"We had to get the truth to the miners and the public somehow," continued Corbishly, "and there isn't a paper in the county that would print our stories. Lon Fox and Del Cobb see to that. There was only one thing we could do, and we did it, because we're entitled to it. We printed this leaflet to let everyone know what actually happened in Zeigler."

## Will Fight an Appeal.

The suspended members have announced their intention of appealing to the district executive board, and if necessary to the international executive board or the international convention.

It is openly stated here by supporters of the prosecution that the actual charges and issues will be evaded by the prosecution and that every effort will be made to base their side of the case on the "Bolshevik scare" and the "red menace" in the hope of prejudice a jury which is likely to be made up mainly of farmers from the other side of the county.

In private conversations, Farrington men admit that the basis of the indictments lies in the fact that the coal operators in Zeigler were out to get rid of the local progressive union officials led by Corbishly because of the latter's insistence on correct weighing of coal and wages to the miners in accordance.

The frame-up against them is the result of the co-operation which the ku klux klan and the Farrington-Fox machine is giving to the owners of the huge Bell and Zoller mine No. 1.

## CLEVELAND WORKERS HEAR OF MINE STRIKE ON TUESDAY EVENING

CLEVELAND, Ohio Nov. 29—The workers of Cleveland will be able to gain a good insight into the real struggle of the anthracite coal miners in Pennsylvania at the meeting that has been arranged to take place Tuesday evening, December 1, 8 p. m., Insurance Center Building, 1783 East Eleventh St., corner Wal-hut Ave. Room 601 at which Comrade Pat H. Toohey, member of the National Executive Committee of the Young Workers' (Communist) League and youthful strike leader, will tell of the problems that the striking miners face in the present crisis.

## Farrington, Illinois Head of Miners, Aids the Capitalist Courts

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shooting of a progressive Zeigler miner by a known klansman who is being shielded by the Farrington-Fox machine, and the illegal and provocative actions of Fox and Cobb, are also permitted to go by the board in the anxiety of Farrington to rid himself of his union opponents.

## Quite a Difference.

Local attorneys and union men are indicating a significant comparison between the Herrin cases and the Zeigler cases. In the Herrin trial all of the legal talent and financial resources of the union were thrown in the balance on the side of the union defense. Farrington made constant assessments on the membership for the Herrin defense because the nationwide publicity given the case drove him into it, because the Herrin unionists were not in opposition to him, and also because, as the miners explain, he was building up a good reputation for himself in order to be able to carry on his current feud with John L. Lewis.

It also developed that Farrington has to this day refused to make accounting for the hundreds of thousands of dollars collected from the miners for the Herrin men.

## Miners' Own Money Pays Bill.

In this case, however, the entire machinery of the union, the operators and the klan has been brought to bear against the defendants because the latter's policies have been in opposition to those of the officialdom. It is common talk in the county that the district and sub-district treasuries are at the command of the prosecution and that miners' money will be used to pay attorneys to assist the state prosecuting attorney. Roy Martin, to