

ILLINOIS MINERS TO OUST OFFICIALDOM

By ARNE SWABECK.

(Special Cable To The DAILY WORKER.)

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 13.—Considerable hope and enthusiasm among the miners of all districts has been aroused by the recent call by

MINERS RELIEF BRINGS ARRESTS

6 Volunteers Jailed on Tag Day

Six volunteer workers in the tag day drive being held here by the National Miners' Relief Committee for the relief of striking coal diggers, were yesterday arrested and arraigned before various magistrates in the city. Suspended sentences were handed out in two cases while two

the Save-the-Union Committee for a special convention of district 12 to be held next Saturday at Bellville at 10 a. m.

The purpose of the convention will be to work out a program to meet the crisis, which has been brought upon the union by the incompetence and corruption of the Fishwick administration, to place the union in control of the rank and file membership and remove the corrupt officials.

The miners' union faces destruction at the hands of the operators. The Pennsylvania-Ohio miners have been on strike for 13 months to fight off the attempts of the operators to crush the union. They have been left to fight this battle alone.

In Illinois separate, temporary

(Continued on Page Two)

ILLINOIS MINERS READY FOR MEET

Special Convention To Oust Officials

(Continued from page 1)

agreements of various kinds have been signed by the Fishwick machine. The members were not permitted to vote upon these temporary agreements, which have given away all conditions won by the hard struggles of the past. This separate, temporary agreement policy was begun by Frank Farrington while he was on the payroll of the Peabody Coal Company in 1922. This present policy was not authorized by the International or District Convention, nor put to a referendum vote of the membership.

The union officials, the Lewis and Fishwick machine, are responsible for this destructive policy. The loading machine contract forced upon us helps to destroy conditions. It throws daily more men out of work while thousands are now unemployed. We must establish a tonnage rate with division of work and fight for the six-hour day, five day week. The whole policy of the bankrupt Lewis-Fishwick machine is one of destruction of the union. In 1922 the union fields produced 70 per cent of all coal mined. Today the organized fields produce only 30 per cent, while almost 300,000 members have been lost.

To maintain itself in control of the union the Lewis-Fishwick machine has resorted to expulsion of the militant rank and file fighters, expelling local unions and whole districts, stealing of votes, packing of conventions and on top of it all, piling up enormous salaries and expense accounts, while the miners were starving.

The Lewis and Fishwick machine will not call special conventions to consider this emergency in the miners' union and take steps to remedy it. They have destroyed all democracy in the union, crushed the progressive voices, and now carry thru mass expulsions.

Miners to Take Control.

The District No. 12 special convention called by the Save-the-Union Committee, will elect officials from the rank and file who are for the rank and file, and will take care of the union. The special district convention must work out new policies in line with the interest of the membership. It must work toward helping win the Pennsylvania-Ohio strike, to fight for a national agreement, to fight against wage cuts, to fight for the organization of the unorganized, to fight for the six hour day, five day week, to fight for control of loading machine operation, and abolition of penalty clauses and docking system and to fight for the building of a real miners' union, which will establish real conditions for the members.

The rank and file membership have demanded this special convention. The rank and file will rule it. Elect your delegates to this convention. Send credentials to the secretary of the District No. 12, Save-the-Union Committee.