

What the Bosses' Congress Wants to Do Against the Workers

By JAY LOVESTONE.

II. THE McCLINTIC BILL.

THE bill introduced by Congressman J. V. McClintic, of Oklahoma is an out-and-out deportation bill. It makes no pretense whatsoever at delaying persecution of the foreign-born worker by giving the latter an opportunity to enjoy the costly and useless due-process of the law provided for in other measures.

The McClintic bill fits in very well with the bill introduced by Congressman Aswell. We have seen that the bill introduced by the gentleman from Louisiana provided for certain arrangements which made it much more difficult for foreign-born workers to become citizens of the United States. The McClintic bill follows right on the footsteps of the Aswell bill and declares that any foreign-born worker who has failed to become a citizen, without in the slightest way taking into account the difficulties in the path of becoming a citizen, is to be punished very severely thru deportation.

To Deport the Unnaturalized Worker.

WE find that the bill declares that all workers who have been five years or more in the United States and who have not applied for citizenship papers shall be deported if an application for citizenship is not filed within six months of the enactment of this bill as a law.

This declaration is as effective a strike-breaking weapon as that proposed by the Aswell bill. It gives the Department of Labor unlimited power to cajole and persecute workingmen. It really turns the department of labor into an open strikebreaking agency.

Little time need be spent here in examining the difficulties that interfere with foreign-born workers becoming citizens of the United States. We simply want to cite one incident which is typical rather than exceptional in the treatment accorded to the foreign-born workers by the ruling class of the United States.

During the strike of the bituminous coal miners in 1922, Judge Charles D.

Orr, in the federal district court of Pittsburgh, refused "naturalization papers to workers because they were struggling against the mine operators. The judge then said: "Public sentiment is against the strike." An applicant who passed every test given him in applying for citizenship was told by this judge: "Go back to work and I will grant you papers."

Under the provisions of the McClintic Bill, this worker, who was not allowed to become a citizen because of the high-handed conduct of a judge of the coal operators, will then be punished and deported. It is very instructive to note that first the bourgeoisie do not allow the workers to become citizens, don't allow the workers to become naturalized, and then enact laws to punish workers for not being citizens, for not being naturalized. This is capitalist class justice with a vengeance.

There is no limit to the number of workers that Mr. McClintic would have deported. The more the better, in his opinion. We find section 2 of

this bill declares: "Every alien admitted to the United States on and after the passage of this act who does not make application to become a citizen within a day of three years shall be eligible for deportation."

Closing the Doors of Citizenship to the Workingman.

TO the superficial observer, it would appear that these gentlemen from Louisiana and Oklahoma are very anxious that the foreign-born workers should become citizens of the United States. The fact is quite the contrary. These lackeys of the employing class have not introduced a single bill to make it easier for foreign-born workers to become citizens of the United States. Instead, they have spent their time working feverishly to enact laws to cut down the mobility, to limit the rights and destroy the freedom of the foreign-born workers.

It is an easy task to say that a foreign-born worker should become a citizen in three years after he lands. Why haven't these lickspittles of the exploiters proposed a

to remove the restrictions interfering with foreign-born workers becoming citizens of the United States? Why haven't these servants of the bosses proposed a single bill which would make it possible for foreign-born workers to become citizens at any time after they arrived in this country?

The reason for this action of the congressmen is a very plain one and will be understood by all workers. These congressmen are serving the bosses. Therefore these congressmen cannot take a single step which will tend to improve the economic conditions of the workers or in any way facilitate their becoming citizens of the United States. These congressmen cannot take a single step which will remove the restrictions against the foreign-born workers because that would mean that the foreign-born workers would be helped. These congressmen can do nothing else except defend the interests of the capitalists who are their masters.

Striking Labor at Every Turn.

THE McClintic bill does not forego a single possibility to take hostile measures against the working men who come from other countries, to the shores of the United States. In accordance with the provisions of this bill, the secretary of labor and the attorney general have power to deport all unnaturalized workers who have not been "regularly" admitted into the United States and who do not comply with these provisions. Thus, if this bill should become law, the secretary of labor and attorney general or the numerous agents of these two departments would have a right to arrest any worker at any time they please in order to investigate him to find out whether he landed regularly or otherwise. In the case of a strike in a steel or coal community, agents of the department of justice or the department of labor or both could easily swoop down upon the striking workers and arrest them for examination and deportation. What more effective strike-breaking method could be perfected by any detective agency?

And, the United States government being a government of business, by business and for business interests, certainly means business in providing for such strikebreaking measures. In

order to put into force these anti-labor laws, the bill provides that the United States marshal shall secure the names and addresses of all foreign-born workers. This means cataloging the foreign-born workers for prosecution and persecution at the hands of the agents of the employing class. It means the setting up of a big army of government agents who shall be charged with doing nothing else except cajoling and terrorizing the workingmen who happen temporarily to have certain language difficulties or be at a disadvantage because of their having arrived from a foreign country.

The McClintic bill, like the Aswell and other bills, also pretends to speak in the interests of the foreign-born workers. But no honest working man will be fooled by this ruse. Every worker will understand the purpose of these bills. Any legislative measure which aims to deport workers to countries in which they may be imprisoned, tortured or even killed, is not a bill in the interests of the workers. Every bill proposed in congress which aims to limit the freedom, the motions of the working masses, regardless of nativity, is not a measure put forward in the interests of the working class. **A Dangerous Union-Busting Machine.**

THE McClintic bill aims to set up a deadly efficient strike-breaking and union-smashing machinery. In order to stop this bill from becoming law it is the task of the workers to smash the ranks of the open shoppers and the labor-hating crew, that are behind this bill. If this bill should become a law, it will be enacted, in reality, by the working class of this country. There is no doubt that if organized labor in particular and the working masses in general show a strong front against this measure, it will not be enacted as a law. This bill must be killed and killed in quick time. If this bill lives, trade unionism will die. The McClintic bill will let loose a deportation mania which can do nothing else except undermine, weaken and paralyze the fighting capacities of the whole working class in the United States.

Every working class organization in the United States must denounce and oppose this bill with all its might and main.

