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CINEMA WORKERS TO WALK OUT
UNLESS CONTRACT IS REVISED

MEXICO CITY (MLN)--- Mexico City cinema workers may shortly go on strike unless contract revisions are agreed to by U.S. magnates controlling the local motion picture set-up.

Contracts expired August 1 and according to Mexican law both sides have a right, at time of expiration, to agree upon new contract terms.

In the case of the cinema workers, tremendous increases in the cost of living since the original contract was signed make necessary a corresponding raise in wages.

Local cinema concerns, after airplane trips to New York to confer with the U.S. magnates, have refused all discussion over changes in the present contract.

To cover up this attitude they have begun a weird campaign in the local reactionary press, declaring that the union's demand for a wage increase is part of a Nazi conspiracy.

The object of this conspiracy, say these imaginative gentlemen, is to prevent the entry of U.S. films into Mexico in order to leave a clear field to Axis propaganda movies.

While such tactics are customary and rather boring to the Mexican public, this particular slander is obviously calculated to play upon the fears of the United States government with the hope that it will use influence to quash the cinema workers request for wage increases.

The deliberate falsity of this smokescreen and provocation is obvious on the surface, but it is proved further by two additional facts:

1. The Cinema Workers Union has been responsible for the ousting of Nazi propaganda movies from Mexico and went on strike to shut down such movies.

2. Newspapers publishing the attack on the Cinema Workers are precisely those which are in the pay of the Nazi-Falangist propaganda organization in Mexico.

If U.S. film magnates want to hold their lucrative Mexican and Latin American market, they had better instruct their local yes-men to agree to the logical requests of the Cinema Workers Union, organized Mexican labor, affiliated also with the Confederation of Latin American Workers, advises.

INDUSTRIAL CRISIS CAUSES NEW WAVE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

MEXICO CITY (MLN) -- Shutting down of many Mexican industries as a result of the war and restriction of electricity consumption has dealt a hard blow to industrial workers in this country, who are suffering an acute unemployment crisis.

While the industrial workers are not a large section of the population in Mexico, where small crafts and farming occupy the majority, they are the basis of organized labor and especially of the Confederation of Mexican Workers.

The crisis is heightened by the additional factor that unemployed industrial workers tend to concentrate in the federal district, coming from all parts of the country in hope of finding work among metropolitan industries.

Apart from the frightful conditions resulting for the unemployed, wage levels among job-holders tend to be depressed or held down by the fact that a huge "labor reserve" is thrown upon the market.

This factor has greatly hindered the CTM campaign for wage increases that will correspond with the rapidly rising cost of living.

The National Committee of the Confederation has requested all state affiliates to compile a census of unemployed in their districts and to petition state governments for the establishment of new work centers.

Also being considered is the possibility of colonization of unemployed on government land tracts as cooperative farmers. This plan is also being tried out with Mexican laborers repatriated from the United States.

The problem is far too great for the unemployed to be given much aid by their own unions, even if they are members of one, as union finances are in turn affected by the crisis.

Meanwhile the absolute monopoly of Mexican import trade held by the United States is dealing further blows to local industry and U.S. war restrictions on export of factory machinery effectively prevents the establishment of new industries.

A more disastrous weakening of Mexico's labor organizations than could ever result from reactionary attack may result from this crisis, labor circles fear.

PRESIDENT REVIEWS LABOR'S
GRIEVANCES AGAINST CERDAN.

MEXICO CITY (MLN) -- The case of Jorge Cerdan, governor of the state of Veracruz who has been attempting to break up the CTM organization in that state, has been presented to President Avila Camacho for settlement.

The President called in Cerdan for explanation August 4, shortly after seeing CTM leaders, then promised to investigate the situation further and take action.

Additional inquiry into the state of affairs in Vera Cruz reveals the amazing fact that Cerdan has nine close relatives in high political and appointive positions under him.

These include the president of the state legislature, the city treasurer of Veracruz, consultive states attorney, head of the telephone and telegraph system, head of the State Department of Transit, head of Veracruz Medical Department, chief assistant to the mayor of Veracruz, official candidate for mayor of the city of Orizaba, and mayor of Cordova.

Not only are all of these job-holders closely related to Gov. Cerdan, but they all bear the family name of Cerdan. How many additional cousins and kin the man may have in public offices has not been checked.

In an official statement the CTM has charged Cerdan with the following acts:

1. Persecution of unions, including armed assaults on local halls, jailing of union members, bribery.
2. Organization of the Cerdanist Vanguard, for the purpose of opposing progressive organization. This group works in close harmony with Veracruz sinarchists.
3. Financial subsidizing of bandit gangs who agree to attack revolutionary or union leaders.
4. Disregard of state and city laws, with government by executive decree substituted.
5. Open support for Sinarchism and its allied Nazi-Fascist groups.

Much depends upon the outcome of the CTM-Cerdan conflict, as many other state political machines will likely start anti-labor agitation if Cerdan is not checked. Tendencies in that direction have already been observed in the state of Coahuila.

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE ASSURES
COOPERATIVE FARMERS OF LAND.

MEXICO CITY (MLN) -- Mexico's agrarian problem has been further cleared up by a recent decree issued by President Avila Camacho making impossible the return of cooperative farm lands to original owners by court

action.

Previously, under certain circumstances, a property owner whose land had been taken by the government could get it back or receive "equal compensation" upon proof that he fell into the category of small landowner.

As a result of the new decree, such litigants can be granted only "equal compensation" and under no circumstances can recover their original holdings.

Practical result of this action will be to make cooperative farmers secure in their holdings and tend to increase greatly the national agricultural output, previously held back by uncertainty of status.

Many owners of vast acreages had been able in the past to disrupt an entire cooperative settlement by litigation carried on by corrupt lawyers who tried to prove, and in some cases did "prove" that their clients were small landowners.

The situation was a ready-made political football for unscrupulous machine bosses, who could threaten cooperative farmers with expulsion from their lands unless political support was forthcoming.

The new decree will work no hardship upon genuine small landowners, as they will be eligible for compensation, which normally takes the form of an award of a plot of government land of equal value to the original holding.

SINARCHO-FASCIST PROVOCATIONS
CLAMPED DOWN ON BY GOVERNMENT

MEXICO CITY (MLN) --- Recent federal orders issued by the Mexican government prohibit demonstrations by Sinarchist groups without special licenses by local authorities, specific guarantees that order will be kept, and assumption of responsibility for all acts of violence resulting from the demonstration.

These orders strike a hard blow at the Sinarchist group, which is Mexico's strongest fascist organization. Favorite agitation method of the Sinarchists has been to organize "spontaneous" riots against labor groups, with resultant bloodshed.

Immediate cause of the federal action is believed to be the recent murder of five farmers in Guerrero by Sinarcho-Fascist gangsters.

CTM heads expressed their satisfaction with the government's decree in an official statement issued August 3.

They declared that the CTM will continue to fight the Sinarcho-Fascists until they disappear.

A national Anti-Sinarchist Congress will shortly be organized by the CTM for the purpose of coordinating the efforts of all anti-fascist sections of the population in the fight against Sinarchism.

Huge organizational drives to combat Sinarchism are getting underway in those states most hard hit by the "native" fascist plague.