

An Answer to "Justice" Baroff, Sigman and Yanovsky

By WILLIAM E. FOSTER.

When I was in New York recently to speak at the great protest meeting of needle workers, held in Rutgers Square, I took occasion to reply orally in detail to the slanders against me contained in the current issue of "Justice," and replied specifically to the nine questions asked by the editor, Yanovsky. Now, let me (being just returned to town) reply in writing.

Mr. Yanovsky, by turning a few dozen intellectual hand-springs, blames the shooting at Carmens' Hall, in Chicago, upon me. Now we can dispose of this matter quite easily. Let me repeat the offer that I made in the public meeting at Rutgers' Square, namely, that the Trade Union Educational League officially challenges Morris Sigman, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, to join with it in the formation of a committee to thoroughly investigate the whole matter of the shooting, this committee to be made up of an equal number of representatives of the Trade Union Educational League and the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, with another member to be chosen by these representatives. To this committee we engage to prove not only that the shot fired were not blanks, but also to establish the name of the gunman who fired the shots. This is a fair and square offer, and if it is not accepted by Mr. Sigman, it will be positive proof that he does not want the truth known about the shooting in Carmens' Hall.

Mr. Yanovsky demanded an answer to his nine questions. I have furnished such an answer, first orally and now in writing. We demand therefore, the acceptance of this offer. If it is not accepted, all the agrimblings of Mr. Yanovsky will not prevent the proper conclusion from being drawn.

Now to answer the nine questions. Most of them are either insolent or trivial, or both, and are not worthy an answer. But so that Mr. Yanovsky has no rat-hole to crawl into, I am condescending to make reply to them. The only one of importance is number one, in which Yanovsky states his organization gave \$60,000 to the steel strike and received a testimonial from me for the sum of \$65,000. He wonders where the additional \$5,000 came from, leaving the conclusion that there were some irregularities in my finances. This question, as Mr. Yanovsky well knows, is a dastardly attack. He understands perfectly well all about this matter. Let us see the facts: The Amalgamated Clothing Workers donated \$100,000 to the steel strike fund. Their convention was coming on and it occurred to our committee that it would be a courteous thing to send them an engrossed testimonial in time to be displayed at their convention. But when this was proposed, the question was raised that the International Ladies' Garment Workers and the Fur Workers had also contributed heavily to the strike fund and that possibly they might be offended if such a testimonial was sent to the Amalgamated before they received theirs. Hence it was decided to send testimonials to all three simultaneously. Our committee, however, did not know how much the latter two organizations had contributed, as the funds they gave were not forwarded to our committee directly, but to Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, who later turned over all money raised in the general appeal in bulk, not specifying to us what organization he had received them from. We knew the Amalgamated had contributed \$100,000, but did not know exactly how much the others had given. So I wrote to Secretary Baroff, of the International, inquiring about this matter. He replied that his union had contributed \$65,000 and the Fur Workers \$20,000. Having no way to check up on this matter, we had to take his word for it. Consequently we made out the testimonials on the basis of the figures stated in his letter. Later on, when Mr. Mor-

rierson, who handled the strike funds, issued his official report on the strike fund receipts and expenditures, we found out that Baroff had made an incorrect statement in his letter. I wrote him at once, asking him that the testimonial be returned so that it could be corrected. This he failed to do, for reasons best known to himself. Being just a little suspicious of his motives, I saved his letter, which is reproduced herewith. Let Mr. Baroff, or his office-boy, Yanovsky, get around it if he can.

In question number two Mr. Yanovsky wants to know who made me secretary-treasurer of the Trade Union Educational League and if I had any opposition. In reply I will state that I was regularly elected by the League and that I had no opposition. I may add that I was also re-elected secretary-treasurer at the Second General Conference of the League, which convened in Chicago Sept. 1-2, 1923, with over a hundred delegates. I hope this very valuable information will satisfy Mr. Yanovsky in some mysterious way.

In question number three, Yanovsky wants to know what my salary is as Secretary-Treasurer and who fixed it. It is \$40 per week and it was established by the National Committee of the T. U. E. L. Incidentally, it may be remarked that Mr. Yanovsky, who is so quizzical about my income, gets the extravagant salary of \$125 per week, which is pure robbery of the I. L. G. W. U. In answer to question number four, I will state that I have no other compensation than my salary. Regarding question number five, I will say that my trips about the country are financed almost entirely by the groups that hold the meetings. In fact, most of them yield a profit to our organization.

In answer to question number six, the T. U. E. L. membership is made up of workers. When they see their unions infested by such over-paid leeches as Yanovsky, they are per-

proposed in this letter, which (1) That he participate in the formation of a committee to investigate shooting in Carmens' Hall. (2) That he honestly clear up the matter of \$65,000 testimonial. (3) That either put up or shut up in the matter of auditing the books of League. I await an answer on the propositions.

United Workers Sunday Schools of Chicago Open for the Season

The United Workers' Sunday Schools of Chicago has opened for season. An entirely new program has been worked out under the supervision of the Young Workers League and will undoubtedly be more attractive and beneficial to the children workers in this city than any other program ever drawn up by workers' Sunday school before. A special feature hitherto known is the wonderful co-relation of fun and study. Games, plays, songs are included and not one of them is without educational value while their laughter provoking is something which in the games children, cannot be equalled. We therefore that the workers in this respond to the call of those in work, and see that all children of class-conscious workers get down these schools. The addresses of schools appear below. Junior groups have also been formed, which take the youth of the working class, young comrades who are not yet enough to get into the League, yet who are too old for the Sunday schools. These groups also have program never before equalled in history of junior workers' groups in this or any other country.

Addresses of the United Workers' Sunday Schools of Chicago; the meeting time is 10 a. m. Sunday:

North Side, 634 Willow Street.
North-West, 2733 Hirsch Blvd.
Chicago Ave., 2147 West Chicago
Crawford Ave., 3838 W. Grand.
Douglas Park, 3322 Douglas Blvd.
Irving Park, 4021 N. Drake Ave.
Lake View, Social Turner Hall
Belmont and Paulina.
Lincoln Park, 1941 Newport Ave.
South Side, 4530 Gross Ave.
yet organized for year.

Junior Groups of the United Workers' Sunday Schools of Chicago meeting at 3 p. m. Sundays at follows:
North-West Side, 2733 Hirsch Blvd.
Douglas Park, 3322 Douglas Blvd.
Irving Park, 4021 N. Drake Ave.

KEEP THIS DATE OPEN!

Sunday October 28,
(Afternoon and Evening)

Entertainment and Dance of the Season

For the

DAILY WORKER

AT ASHLAND AUDITORIUM
VAN BUREN and ASHLAND BLVD.

ENTERTAINMENT begins at 3:30 P. M. and includes
Orchestra, Singing, Movies, etc.

DANCE at 8:30 P. M. with Music by Sol Wagner's
Society Syncopators.

ADMISSION to both Entertainment and Dance.
In Advance—50c (incl. Wartax); at Door 75c

Auspices

DAILY WORKER CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE OF CHICAGO