

Fascisti in Mexico Force Labor Unity

By BERTRAM D. WOLFE
(Special to "The Worker")

MEXICO CITY.—The threatening Fascisti movement of Mexico is forcing a United Front of all factions in the Mexican labor movement.

I have already reported a strike of the American-owned Mexican Sewer Pipe Company, in which the pro-labor government of the municipality of Tacuba had arrested 60 scabs attempting to enter the factory. The company complained to the American Embassy and the workers responded by extending the strike, which had already lasted five weeks, to the general offices of the Company, many miles from the factory and situated in the heart of Mexico City.

In broad daylight at two o'clock in the afternoon while the general offices of the Company were closed for the afternoon siesta (all workers here get two or three hours or more for lunch) the pickets arrived, put up a red and black flag, the usual emblem of the Labor Federation hung over buildings where strikes are being conducted, and when General Manager French and his staff came back from their midday meal, they found their entrance barred. French went to the police who told him he would enter the offices at his own risk. Being a citizen of the United States, he immediately went to "our" embassy.

The red and black flag continued to fly in the heart of the business district of Mexico City, a fearful portent to other business houses, until the Fascisti took a hand in the matter. They attacked the pickets and tore down the flag.

The Fascisti Party of Mexico is numerically not very strong and the Mexican labor movement was making preparations to "clean up" the Fascisti when the strike was suddenly terminated by a victory of the workers. But not before statements had been issued by various leaders of the labor movement to the effect that both factions of the movement, the so-called "Red Unions" and "Yellow Unions" would unite forces if necessary against the Fascisti.

One of the prominent leaders of the "yellow" or majority unions has given an interview to the press in which he declared:

"We have in the past ignored the Fascisti movement because we considered it too insignificant to merit our attention. But if it tries any more stunts like this, it will find that the Red and the Yellow unions, whatever may be their differences, can unite against this common enemy."