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# Workers' News Service, Backed by Labor Only, Launched Here.

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The mail news service of the Federated Press, the new working class news organization, was inaugurated out of Milwaukee Saturday [Jan. 3, 1920]. At the same time, \$100,000 worth of 5 year 6% bonds, the proceeds of which are for the initial development of the enterprise, were offered to labor unions and working class people generally.

It was announced that the editorial offices of the association will be maintained in Milwaukee, and that as soon as plans can be worked out a wire service will be established, which will, in time, cover the whole country. Correspondents will be named in the important cities, and particularly in industrial centers, while negotiations are under way for extensive cable and mail service from Europe.

## Offices in Milwaukee.

E.J. Costello, [Managing Editor] of the *Milwaukee Leader*, is the Managing Editor and executive head of the organization, while Louis P. Lochner, New York, is the Business Manager. The International Labor News Service of New York, of which Lochner has been the Managing Editor, has been merged with the new service. The offices will be maintained in Brisbane Hall.

The following statement was issued:

To the workers of Milwaukee and Wisconsin:

The Federated Press is an incorporated cooperative association of the editors of the Free

Press in the United States and Canada. There are no profits and no dividends. The cost will be assessed on a budget basis to each of the members.

The Federated Press is the workers' press association — it is your organization. Upon you rests the responsibility for its development. Probably no undertaking ever had greater prospects for success. The psychology of the national is changing, despite the reactionary phase through which we are now passing, and which is being "played up" by the Kept Press for the purposes of the Big Bosses. Someday, the Federated Press will be the dominant news organization of the country. Please mark that statement.

But you, the workers, must do your part. You must help float the \$100,000 bond issue, which is to take care of the initial stages of development, and make less the cost of the news service to working class publications, which in this transition period are not able to bear additional burdens.

Buy as many bonds as you can. Get your unions to take over large blocks of bonds. Without a free press the working class movement must be delayed.

The association is permanently under control of the workers, and no editor can become a member unless he is connected with a working class publication. For instance, the *Milwaukee Journal*, *The Sentinel*, and the *Wisconsin News*, which are controlled by Big Business, could not have representation, although the by-laws allow the Executive Board to arrange for direct sale of the complete service, or any part thereof, to such papers, provided 7 members vote affirmatively and the action is ratified by 3/4 the members of the association. And the association would have

to be definitely assured that such papers intended in good faith to print honest news about union labor and industrial conditions throughout the world.

The Federated Press is not a propaganda organization. Its function is strictly that of reporting the truth concerning happenings of interest to the workers of America and Canada. All "spot news" and news correspondence will be handled without bias for or against the various groups associating themselves in this enterprise.

Negotiations are under way for acquiring the cable news service of one of the leading labor papers in Europe, which has special correspondents in London, Berlin, Paris, Stockholm, Rome, The Hague, Reval, and Dublin.

The association was organized on Nov. 25, 1919, at the National Labor Party Convention in Chicago, for the express purpose of handling the news of interest to the workers, which is now either suppressed entirely by the Kept Press or minimized. The Chairman of the Executive Board is Robert M. Buck, Editor of *The New Majority*, which is published by the Chicago Federation of Labor and is the official organ of the new National Labor Party. Other members of this board are E.B. Ault, Editor of the *Seattle Union Record*; W.B. Hilton, Editor of *Majority* at Wheeling, W.Va.; R.B. Smith, Editor of the *Butte Daily Bulletin*, Butte, Mont.; J. Deutelbaum, Editor of the *Detroit Labor News*, which is the official organ of the Detroit Federation of Labor; Joseph Schlossberg, Editor of *The Advance*, the official organ of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America; Herbert E. Gaston, of the Non-Partisan League papers at Minneapolis; and F.J. Schwanz, Editor of *The Worker*, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

*Edited by Tim Davenport.*

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