

LABOUR DAY AROUND THE WORLD

Labour Day spotlight falls on the Continent. Urging abdication to exiled King Leopold is the theme of a parade in Brussels. Along specially guarded streets (led by Socialist leader Paul Spaak) demonstrators march to a meeting in the Place des Sablons. May Day passes off almost without incident in Paris too. With transport paralysed by a 24-hour strike, only a small crowd watches the march to the Bastille. Communist leader Maurice Thorez, leads the city's quietest Labour Day parade in years. Things are a little more hectic over in New York. Onlookers jeer as 5,000 Communists go on parade. Eugene Dennis and other convicted Communist leaders - at present on bail - review the marchers - who soon come under a fire of eggs and tomatoes. The only serious incident of the afternoon starts so suddenly no one knows how it began.

When order was restored some of the more active demonstrators came in for a short police-guarded holiday.