

Combined with "The Revolutionary Age"

# The Communist

All Power To The Workers!

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Five Cents

## The State—Strike-Breaker

**W**ORKERS, you have been told that the government of the United States is a government "of the people, by the people and for the people".

The Communists have told you that it is a government "of the capitalists, by the capitalists and for the capitalists".

The proof is before you.

The representatives of more than a half million coal miners met in convention in September. They discussed the wages and working conditions in the coal mining industry. They found that the capitalists who owned the coal mines were making greater profits than ever, but that the increased cost of living had so reduced the buying power of the wages of the workers that they were barely getting enough for an existence.

The work of the miners is of a most dangerous character. How often have you not read of mine disasters which snuff out the lives of hundreds of miners, disasters which are due to the fact that the capitalists in their greed for profits refused to spend the money necessary to safeguard the lives of the workers! The work of the miners is health-destroying. They work down in the dark places under the earth, among dangerous gasses, where there is no life-giving air and sunshine.

The miners said that there were enough miners to produce enough coal to supply all the needs of the country, if they were employed regularly, working thirty hours per week, in place of being kept idle part of the time. They said thirty hours a week in the dangerous, health-destroying places under the earth is enough. They demanded a thirty hour week.

The miners are strongly organized. All the workers in and about the mines are in the miners union. The workers are not divided into crafts, but united in one industrial organization. They have power to enforce their demands upon the capitalists.

They made their demands upon the coal mine owners. These capitalists standing alone had no power to resist the demands of the workers. The workers could close the mines and prevent the capitalists from making profits. If they were sufficiently conscious of the way to free themselves from exploitation they could even take over the mines and operate them, without paying profits to the capitalists.

But the capitalists have forged a weapon to keep the workers in submission.

The capitalists called in the government, the State.

All the power of the government was mobilized to prevent the miners from securing wages that will enable them to live and the working hours which should prevail in the mining industry.

### Proclamation by the Communist Party of America

The President of the United States denounced the strike as "illegal". He threatened the miners with the power of the

Government has already secured an injunction to prevent the miners from using their own funds and the power of their organization to support their strike.

The Government of the United States through its injunction is seeking to starve the wives and children of the miners by preventing their organization from paying strike benefits. All the legal machinery of the Government is being used against the miners, and the army, the soldiers, with their death-dealing instruments, are ready to prevent the miners from securing a living wage and the hours that should prevail in the mining industry.

#### THE STATE HAS STEPPED IN!

This it did in the Steel Strike. This it threatens to do if there is a railroad strike.

The State does not coerce the capitalists; it does not tell the capitalists they must yield to the demands of the miners in order to prevent the stoppage of the mining of coal. The State never coerces the capitalists; its legal machinery is never directed against the capitalists, except occasionally against minor groups in the interest of the whole capitalist class. Its army is never used to destroy the lives of the capitalists. The State coerces the workers. Its legal machinery is used to enforce demands upon the workers. Its army is used to destroy the lives of workers who dare demand a living wage and a little more sunshine and fresh air.

Workers, rally to the support of the miners!

The capitalists are playing to establish an industrial slavery in which their rule will be even greater than in the past. To make strikes "illegal" and crush them with the power of the state is the first move.

The Government of the United States, which some workers have been fooled into believing is a government "of the people, by the people and for the people" is in reality the government "of the capitalists, by the capitalists and for the capitalists". It is the instrument through which industrial slavery is maintained.

The workers cannot win their freedom, they cannot win even a living wage and a little more sunshine and fresh air, while the capitalists control the power of the state.

The workers must conquer that power. They must make themselves the ruling class. They must establish in the place of the dictatorship of the capitalists the Dictatorship of the Proletariat.

Workers, rally to the support of the miners. Make their strike general. Unite for the struggle against industrial slavery. Take from the capitalists the power through which they seek to increase your slavery!

### Two Messages from Lenin

#### 1.—To the World.

International Imperialism is making, there is no doubt, a last and very powerful effort to crush the Soviet Republic. We are convinced that the counter-revolutionary offensives from West and East, the various White Guard disturbances, and the attempts to destroy the railways which have occurred in various places, all result from a carefully arranged plan devised in Paris by the Entente Imperialists. After ending four years of capitalist warfare it was very hard for Russia to be forced to take up arms again in defense of the Soviet Republic.

We have all borne the heavy burden of war; we are all exhausted by it. If this war is carried on with redoubled energy and courage it is only because, for the first time in the history of the world, an army has been raised that knows why it is fighting—fighting the cause of the international proletarian Socialist Revolution.

In spite of our difficulties we have succeeded in carrying out a great work in a short space of time.

The question of organization has also readily been solved. The problem of work on the land, and the relations between the proletariat, when it overthrew the bourgeoisie, and the millions of the middle grade of peasants, have been fully debated and a line of action drawn up.

We are passing through hard times, and the Imperialists are making a mighty effort to overthrow the Soviet by force. But we are convinced that this half-year will see the end of our troubles.

The seed sown by the Russian revolution is bearing fruit in all Europe. It is this knowledge that convinces us that great though our trials may be, international Imperialism (now in its death-throes) will be overcome, and Communism will be victorious throughout the whole world.

#### 2.—To the Socialist Party of Italy.

"Avanti" prints a greeting from Lenin and the Roumanian fugitive Rakovsky to the Italian comrades, to their Party, and to their newspapers. In Lenin's letter, dated August 18th, to comrades Serratti and Lazzari, appears the following:

"The little we know of your movement shows us that you are opposed to the yellow International of Berne, which has betrayed the cause of the workers, and that you are in solidarity with the Communist International.

"The negotiations between the leaders of the yellow International and your Party prove to us that they are merely a general staff without an army. The dictatorship of the proletariat and the Soviet system have already carried off a moral victory all over the world. The material and decisive physical victory must come in spite of all the difficulties and all the blood-shed and in spite of the White Terror of the bourgeoisie. "Down with capitalism! Down with the living bourgeois democracy! Long Live the World Soviet Republic!"

Government of the United States if they insisted upon compelling the capitalists to grant their demands by going on strike. The

NOVEMBER 7, 1917 — NOVEMBER 7, 1919

Long live Soviet Russia! Long live the world proletarian revolution!