

COMMUNIST DEFENSE.

To make the defense of the thousands of arrested members of the Communist Party more effective Communist Defense Committees have been organized in various cities. Two Main Defense Offices will be opened soon. One in New York and one in Chicago. The first will be in charge of Com. C. E. Ruthenberg and the later in charge of Com. Fred M. Freedman. The addresses of both offices will soon be made public and all defense funds, Liberty bonds, correspondence relating to the defense of our comrades etc. should be forwarded to one of the two offices. Special attention is called to the fact, that the defense of our comrades will be attended to independently from all other organizations. Organizations such as the Socialist Party that are collecting money under the pretense of "Communist Defense" have nothing to do with our Defense Committees whatsoever. Contributions should therefore be made directly to: "Communist Defense Committees" the only ones authorized to collect funds for Communist Defense.

Every Communist organization, every Communist Party member should become a unit in the organization for the distribution of party literature and increase the knowledge of the party principles by placing books and pamphlets in the hands of the workers. To publish and distribute this literature is one of the great functions of our organization, for as knowledge and understanding increases among our members and the masses, our power grows.

These Are Ready
"THE PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA."

By N. LENIN and L. TROTZKY.
 Edited by L. C. Fraina.
 Paper, 450 Pages.

Single copies.....\$1.00
 5 copies or more, each......65

Cloth:
 Single copies.....\$1.50
 5 or more, each..... 1.00

This book contains the story of the Russian revolution as told by Lenin and Trotsky in their articles written as the events took place.

"THE SOCIAL REVOLUTION IN GERMANY."

By LOUIS C. FRAINA.

Single copies.....\$0.15
 10 copies.....1.25
 25 or more, each......10

"REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALISM"
 By LOUIS C. FRAINA.

Single copies.....\$0.50
 10 copies..... 4.00
 25 copies..... 9.00
 Fifty or more, each......30

"Manifesto, Program, Constitution of the Communist Party and Report to the International."

Single copies.....\$0.10
 25 copies..... 2.00
 50 copies..... 3.50
 100 or more, each......96

Ten thousand copies of this pamphlet have already been sold. The title speaks for itself.

Send order and remittance to
 1219 Blue Island Ave. Chicago, Ill.

SECRETARY BAKER is ordering machine guns to fight the "reds." This is what we call "Machine Gun Democracy."

WHAT WILL the secretary do, when the soldiers will refuse to shoot their brothers? It happened in Archangel where American soldiers refused to fight the "reds". In the beginning of the Russian Revolution of 1905 the Czars' faithful General Trepov declared: "We shall not spare bullets!" But generals are to-day shoveling snow on the streets in Russia. That is what secretary Baker some day will have to do for a living. He'd better get the shovel ready.

An APPEAL to The COMMUNIST MEMBERSHIP

After You've Read This, ACT

THE COMMUNIST PARTY
 Demands That You Act Now.

THE STORM CENTRE of the Communist fight in the United States at this time is the city of New York.

Not only is the attack upon the New York members fully as ferocious as the White Terror in Cleveland, but through the agency of the Lusk Committee and its Extraordinary Grand Jury the attack is made national in scope.

By reason of former membership of the National Left Wing Council, which had its headquarters in New York during the two months of its existence, the Executive Secretary, Editor, Associate Editor and one other member of the Executive Committee of the Communist Party have been indicted. There are two indictments, each covering a publication in THE REVOLUTIONARY AGE, the first publication being of the Left Wing Manifesto, the second of an article by N. Bucharin. Each indictment consists of three counts, thus making six separate charges.

At this time Comrades Ruthenberg and Ferguson of the Communist Party, together with two former members of the Left Wing Council who are now members of the Communist Labor Party, Benjamin Glavin and James Larkin, are under arrest on these charges.

The intervention of several persons, not members of the party, has made possible the release of Comrades Ruthenberg and Ferguson on bail, each at \$15,000.

It is most likely that Comrade Ballam of Boston will also be extradited to New York on the same charges, though the State of Massachusetts also appears anxious to provide Comrade Ballam with prison lodging.

The preliminaries before the Special Term of the Supreme Court indicate that not the least courtesy will be granted to the defense, and every possible limitation will be put upon the defendants to secure convictions.

The prosecution is brought under an old New York law, enacted 1902, making Criminal Anarchy punishable by ten years imprisonment.

Criminal Anarchy is defined as the overthrow of the government by force or violence or other unlawful means. Obviously this law was intended to cover terrorism and assassinations, as its language plainly indicates. It does not cover the mass action advocated by the Communist Party in its present program, nor is there anything in the Left Wing Manifesto or in the Bucharin article which could be twisted into such a construction except on the general logic of "swatting the Bolsheviks."

This trial is being rushed, and it will come in on the wave of sentiment whipped up by the New York papers in connection with the recent deportations of anarchists. It will require an exceptionally able defense, in spite of the weakness of the charges, to overcome all the handicaps under which our comrades go to trial.

CONVICTIONS IN THE NEW YORK CASES, SOME OF WHICH ARE MERELY CHARGES OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMUNIST PARTY, WILL MEAN AN END OF OPEN COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA IN THE UNITED STATES, EVEN THOUGH THE COMMUNIST PARTIES OF MONARCHICAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES HAVE AN IMPORTANT OPEN POLITICAL ACTIVITY, in Italy, Bulgaria, in all the Balkan and Slavic states; in England, France, the Scandinavian countries, Central Asia, etc. THE CONDITION HERE WILL CORRESPOND TO RUSSIA UNDER THE CZARS AND TO THE PRESENT CONDITIONS IN JAPAN.

THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES CANNOT BE THUS DESTROYED, BUT ITS ACTIVITIES WILL BE LIMITED TO THOSE WHO ARE READY AND ABLE TO GIVE UP EVERYTHING FOR IT, FAMILY, FRIENDS, FREEDOM. This may be inevitable but it seems worth while for an organization based on education and agitation to make a desperate fight for the open forum.

If the defense of our open propaganda is to prove futile it is no less a test of our membership that we make a strong showing before we finally admit that we cannot propagandize Communism openly. The membership must supply the funds for the propaganda involved in the defense.

The Socialist Party and the I. W. W. have made a record of standing by their indicted and imprisoned members, and in this at least they have been in the past aided by the present members of the Communist Party. UNTIL THE TIME COMES FOR THE ABSOLUTE ADMISSION THAT THERE CAN BE NO PROPAGANDA OF COMMUNISM IN THE UNITED STATES, EXCEPT IN SECRET, SUBJECT TO ALL THE HAZARDS OF A SPY SYSTEM, IT IS A FIRST OBLIGATION OF THE PARTY MEMBERSHIP TO AID AS GENEROUSLY AS POSSIBLE, NOW, IN THE LEGAL DEFENSE.

Special

As this issue of The Communist goes to press, it is learned that the National offices of the Communist Party of America have been raided and many Communists arrested. The offices have been closed by the order of State Attorney Hoyne.

Keep All Contributions Until Notified To Do Forward Them. There Is No Time to Lose in the Work of Getting Ready to Aid in the Defense of the Comrades Who Are Now in Jail.

RESPOND AT ONCE--TO DAY--with active interest organization work, and REMIT YOUR CONTRIBUTION FOR DEFENSE BY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TODAY.
 There is no time to lose.