

Party Matter.

We are printing three resolutions in this issue from organizations which were formerly affiliated with the U. C. P. All these are highly significant in that they prove that the rank and file of the U. C. P. are becoming thoroughly disgusted with the tactics of Danon, Canton, Fisher & Co., who are pursuing the same disunited policies in their party that they formerly pursued in the Communist Party.

Aside from their Centrist proclivities they have proven themselves to be a set of stupid and arrogant bureaucrats who have absolutely no conception of the real needs of the Communist movement in this country.

We are glad to find that the membership of the U. C. P. is waking up to the facts. It will make the process of unity between the C. P. and the U. C. P.—which according to statements printed in the English Communist organs has been definitely decided upon by the Executive Committee of the Third International—much simpler and easier.

The circulation of the Communist has been increased to 8000 copies in the last few months owing to the demands for increased orders from the party organizations. Keep up the orders and we'll soon have a ten thousand circulation.

We have exhausted the first edition of the pamphlet "Appeal of the Third International to the I. W. W.", but orders are coming in so fast that a second edition is necessary.

A number of new pamphlets and leaflets are ready for distribution. Send in your orders through the regular party channels.

The pamphlet containing the charges against Comrade Louis C. Fraina long overdue, is now ready. Price twenty five cents. (This edition is only 1500 in number due to the size of the pamphlet, forty eight pages.)

Anniversary edition of the Communist out November 1st will be twelve pages, containing some of the latest pictures from Russia as well as instructive and informative articles on the history of Soviet Russia the last three years. Increase your orders for this issue.

Lettish Communist Federation held its convention and cleaned itself of all non-Communist elements. It elected a new Central Executive Committee which has been recognized by the C. E. C. of the party.

The C. E. C. of the party passed the following motions regarding the Lettish Federation: "To notify all district organizers that in accordance with our constitution they must not recognize any branch or section of the Lettish Federation which does not recognize the present Lettish Federation Central Committee and the decisions of their recent convention".

"That we denounce the action of the nationalistic and legalistic leaders of the former Lettish Federation in their nefarious attempt to drag the whole Lettish Federation into the mire of nationalism and legalism".

The National Organizer reports that the Polish Federation at its recent convention has decided unanimously to re-affiliate with the Communist Party of America. Action was deferred until formal application is received.

All the District Organizations and the Federations are now working better than ever before. The Federations are carrying on a tremendous amount of propaganda and agitation in their various languages. The District Organizations are carrying on great English propaganda and constantly increased in demands for more leaflets, pamphlets and "Communists".

The Propaganda and Education Committee has prepared a prospectus for elementary and advanced study classes which will be sent out through the regular party channels.

The pamphlet containing the program and constitution of the party will go on the press as soon as the literature now on hand is finished. Send your orders in right away.

Resolution Russian Br. of Toledo

We, the members of Russian Branch of Toledo, Ohio, recognizing that our Branch was dragged into the mutiny of Danon, Fisher & Co. against the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party of America through an outright deception, we protest most emphatically against such dirty, self-seeking tactics and against that net of lies and false accusations which this company has fettered the minds of our comrades.

They utilized for this purpose the moment after police raids, on account of which regular connections with other cities and organizations were broken, and there was no opportunity to learn fully of all the various differences which brought about the split of the C. P. of A., there was no opportunity to know which was the right position to take in harmony with our fundamental principles. We recognize that the program and manifesto of the C. P. of A. express the true principles of Communism, and we request that our Branch should be admitted into the C. P. of A. as the only party that is standing for true Communism in this country.

We are against a yellow party with its reactionary leaders who play politics only for their own pleasure, who have brought through their dirty and certain confusion into the Communist ranks. We are just forming again after the mode of "Palmer's Democracy", and who are striving with all their powers to legalize their yellow party.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

CASH STATEMENT FOR SEPT. 1920. Table with columns for CASH RECEIVED, CASH PAID, and Bal. from Aug. Rows include various districts (Distr. I, II, III, IV, V, VI), office expenses, and organizational costs.

Correction to Aug. Statement in No. 11 Com. Item "Literature - 15.25" is from Distr. IV, not III. Item "Org. Fund - 135.25" from Distr. IV contains 5.25 for literature.

C. Dobin, Sec.

Communism and the Family

By Alexandra Kolontay.

Will the family be maintained in the Communist State? Will it be just as it is today? That is a question which is tormenting the women of the working class, and which is likewise receiving attention from their comrades the men. In recent days this problem has particularly been agitating all minds among the working women, and this should not astonish us: Life is changing under our very eyes; former habits and customs are gradually disappearing; the entire existence of the proletarian family is being organized in a manner that is so new, so unaccustomed, so "bizarre", as to have been impossible to foresee. That which makes women at the present day all the more perplexed is the fact that divorce has been rendered easier in Soviet Russia. As a matter of fact, by virtue of the decree of the People's Commissaries of December 18th, 1917, divorce has ceased to be a luxury accorded only to the rich; henceforth the working woman will not have to petition for months, or even for years, for a separate credential entitling her to make herself independent of a brutish or drunken husband, accustomed to beat her. Henceforth, divorce may be amicably obtained within the period of a week or two at most. But it is just this ease of divorce which is a source of such hope to women who are unhappy in their married life, which simultaneously frightens other women, particularly those who have become accustomed to considering the husband as the "provider", as the only support in life, and who do not yet understand that women must become accustomed to seek and to find this support elsewhere, no longer in the person of the man, but in the person of society, of the State.

From the Genetic Family to the Present Day. There is no reason for concealing the truth from ourselves: the normal family of former days in which the man was everything and the woman nothing since she had no will of her own, no money of her own, no time of her own—this family is being modified day by day; it is almost a thing of the past. But we should not be frightened by this condition. Either through error or through ignorance we are quite ready to believe that everything about us may remain immutable while everything is changing. It has always been so, and it will always be so. There is nothing more erroneous than this proverb: We have only to read how people lived in the past, and we shall learn immediately that everything is subject to change and that there are no customs, nor political organizations, nor morals, which remain fixed and unchangeable. And the family in the various epochs in the life of humanity has frequently changed in form. It was once quite

different from what we are accustomed to behold today. There was a time when only one form of family was considered normal, namely, the genetic family; that is to say, a family with an old mother at its head, around whom were grouped, in common life and common work, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren. The patriarchal family was also once considered the sole norm; it was presided over by a father-master whose will was law for all the other members of the family; even in our days, such peasant families may still be found in Russian villages. In fact, in those places the morals and the family laws are not those of the city worker; in the country there still are a large number of customs no longer found in Russian villages. In fact, in those form of the family, its customs, vary according to race. There are peoples, such as, for instance, the Turks, Arabs, Persians, among whom it is permitted by law for a husband to have many wives. There have been, and there still are at present, tribes which tolerate the contrary custom of permitting a wife to have several husbands. The habitual morality of the present-day man permits him to demand of a young girl that she remain a virgin until legitimate marriage; but there were tribes among whom the woman, on the contrary, made it a matter of pride to have had many lovers, decorating her arms and legs with rings to indicate their number.

Such practices, which could not but astonish us, practices which we might even qualify as immoral, are found among other peoples to have the sanction of holiness, peoples who in their turn consider our laws and customs to be "sinful". Therefore there is no reason for our becoming terrified at the fact that the family is undergoing a modification, that gradually the traces of the past which have become outlived are being discarded, and that new relations are being introduced between man and woman. We have only to ask:

"What is it that has become outlived in our family system and what, in the relations of the working man and working woman and the peasant and peasant woman, are their respective rights and duties which would best harmonize with the conditions of life in the new Russia, in the workers' Russia which our Soviet Russia now is?" Everything compatible with this new condition would be maintained, all the rest, all the superannated rubbish which has been bequeathed to us by the cursed epoch of servitude and domination which was characteristic of the bonded proprietors and the capitalist, all this shall be swept aside together with the outlived class laws, with these remnants of the proletariat and of the past.