

## Billions Made by Big Industrialists

Thirty-eight leading industrial corporations each paid out in 1929 over \$10,000,000 in cash dividends on common stock. Reports of many other large corporations are yet to be published, but profits already announced are flaunted in the face of unemployed workers and of other workers whose wages have recently been cut.

### General Motors Heads Lists

General Motors Corp. in 1929, as usual in recent years, heads the list of cash dividend payers. Over \$155,000,000 was distributed during the year to holders of its common stock. Second on the list comes American Telephone and Telegraph Co. paying to common shareholder approximately \$116,000,000, an increase of \$13,000,000 over the previous year. U. S. Steel Corp. stands third, paying over \$63,000,000, an increase of more than 26% as compared with 1928.

DuPont, the fourth company on the list paying more than \$50,000,000, distributed over \$60,100,000 in common dividends. Thus the leading four include the largest automobile company, the largest public utility, the largest steel corporation, and the largest chemical and explosives manufacturer. Oil is not one of the leading four only because the Standard Oil interests are broken into separate units. But together the biggest four Standard Oil companies paid close to \$150,000,000 in common dividends.

F. W. Woolworth Co., paying its workers from \$10 to \$15 a week, paid its common stockholders \$23,400,000 in cash.

### Enormous Profits Continue

Common stock cash dividends of the 19 industrial companies whose payments in 1929 exceeded \$20,000,000 were as follows:

General Motors	\$155,000,000	\$163,300,002
Amer. Telephone	116,000,000	103,821,440
U. S. Steel	63,096,801	49,813,645
Du Pont	60,163,216	49,655,669
Standard Oil, N.J.	46,738,063	36,583,117
Kennecott Copper	43,936,353	32,909,565
Gen'l Elec.	43,268,504	42,265,656
Anaconda Copper	42,753,253	14,419,034
Standard Oil, Ind.	40,040,133	32,416,528
Consolidated Gas	34,867,361	23,978,135
Standard Oil, Cal.	32,500,000	37,728,294
Standard Oil, N.Y.	28,600,000	27,580,290
Tex. Corp.	28,500,000	24,306,712
Eastman Kodak	26,000,000	16,452,300
Reynolds Tobacco	25,500,000	26,000,000
Woolworth	23,400,000	19,500,000
Amer. Tobacco	21,091,512	15,623,172
U. Gas Imp'v'm't.	21,000,000	19,788,907
Union Carbide	20,606,859	16,235,208

The other 19 companies paying a paltry \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000 in common dividends include Sears Roebuck, Sheel Union Oil, Morgan's new Standard Brands, three other motor companies, Bethlehem Steel, United Fruit, and Westinghouse Electric.

Dividends on common stock are not the whole story of returns to investors. Most of these corporations have also made large payments to bondholders and to owners of preferred stock. Part of their net profits they keep in the treasury to increase the corporation's undivided surplus.

### THE SITUATION IN THE MINING INDUSTRY

The next issue of the Militant will contain a statement by the National Committee of the Communist League of America (Opposition) on the situation in the mining industry. It will deal particularly with the recent call for an anti-Lewis international convention issued by Harry Fishwick, Alexander Howat, John Brophy, John Walker and others; the recent strike of the National Miners Union in Illinois; the coming convention of the N. M. U. in Pittsburgh, and the tasks of the Left wing in the industry.

### TYPOS DEFEAT SALARY BOOST

INDIANAPOLIS—Again the membership of the Intl. Typographical Union has decided by referendum that \$5,000 a year is plenty for its chief officials. Convention action to raise the ante 50% was vetoed by 26,794 against the increase of 22,882 votes in favor.

### GAIN 40-HOUR NIGHT WEEK

MT. MORRIS, Ill.—(FP)—Union printers of Mt. Morris, where hundreds of magazines are printed by Kable Bros., have gained the 40-hour week for the night shift. Wage increases include 11 cents an hour nights and 7 cents an hour days.

## "The Greatest Disciple of Lenin"

"Comrade Stalin never deviated a hair, comrade Stalin fought side by side with Lenin in October" Daily Worker, 1-18-30). When Stalin made a united front with the Chinese militarists against the Chinese workers, he never deviated a hair. When Stalin was in favor of continuing relations with the traitors of the British general strike, he never deviated a hair. When comrade Stalin was in favor of a coalition with the Mensheviks in 1917, he never deviated a hair. When Stalin supported the Right wing in the Comintern and when he split every Communist party into three groups, he never deviated a hair.

"It is true," says John Reed in *Ten Days that Shook the World* (pages 123-124) "that the Petrograd Soviet had not ordered a demonstration but the Central Committee of the Bolshevik Party was considering the question of insurrection. All night long, the 23rd they met. There were present all the Party intellectuals (the leaders) and delegates of the Petrograd workers and the garrison. Alone of the intellectuals, Lenin and Trotsky stood for insurrection. Even the military men opposed it. A vote was taken; insurrection was defeated. Then arose a rough workman, his face convulsed with rage, 'I speak for the Petrograd proletariat,' he said harshly. 'We are in favor of insurrection. Have it your own way, but I tell you now that if you allow the Soviets to be destroyed, we're through with you.' Some soldiers joined him—and after that voted again—insurrection won." (Stalin side by side with Lenin in October.)

"The Congress was to meet at one o'clock and long since the great meeting hall had filled, but by seven there was yet no sign of the Praesidium. The Bolshevik and Left Social Revolutionary factions were in session in their own rooms. All the life-long afternoon Lenin and Trotsky had

fought against compromise. A considerable part of the Bolsheviks were in favor of giving way so far as to create a joint All-Socialist government. 'We can't hold on,' they cried, 'too much is against us; we haven't the men; we will be isolated, and the whole thing will fall.' (Thus Kameneff, Rykov and others.) But Lenin, with Trotsky beside him, stood firm as a rock 'Let the compromisers accept our program and they can come in. We won't give way an inch. If there are comrades here who haven't the courage and the will to dare what we dare, let them leave with the rest of the cowards and conciliators. Backed by the workers and soldiers, we shall go on'." (So, Stalin, side by side with Lenin in October?)

What my eyes hear and what my ears see; laugh, world, laugh with Stalin's bureaucracy.

DENIS PLARINOS

### St. Louis Fakers Try Militant Painter

ST. LOUIS—Efforts are being made by the labor fakers in the St. Louis Painters Union to expel Elmer McMillen, leading militant and Left wing worker in this town, from the Painter's organization. He is about to stand trial on trumped-up charges preferred by the officials. These do not like the contrast of their do-nothing attitude with McMillen's activity in organizing the unorganized workers, leading the recent unemployed demonstration in a demand for work or compensation, and his steady efforts on behalf of the rank and file. The members are strongly sympathetic to McMillen. The outcome of the trial has not yet been made known.

TULSA, Okla.—(FP)—There are more than 4,000 unemployed in both Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

## The «Third Period» of the Comintern's Mistakes - - by L. D. Trotsky

Continued from Page 6

spite, the far-Eastern conflict broke out in the very heat of the preparations for the First of August. The official agitators and journalists yelled about war in general and danger in general so furiously and continuously, that the real international conflict was drowned in the cries finding only a weak approach to the consciousness of the masses. Just so in the present policy of the Comintern do the lean kine of bureaucratic schemas swallow the fat kine of live reality.

In connection with the question of the struggle against the war danger, it is again necessary to observe the strategy of the "second period": as one of the main reasons in favor of the bloc with the General Council was put forth the necessity of a common struggle against the war danger. At the July Plenum of the Central Committee in 1927 Stalin swore that a bloc with the General Council was fully justified by the fact that the English trade unions were helping us conduct a struggle against British imperialism, and therefore a demand to break with the strike-breakers could come only from those people who haven't the defense of the Soviet Union at heart. Thus not only the Leftward swing of the English workers but also the war danger during 1926-27 served as the main arguments in favor of a bloc with the reformists. Now it appears that both the radicalization of the masses and the approaching war danger demand a decisive refusal of any kind of agreements with them. All the questions are put so as to confuse the advanced workers as much as possible.

There is no doubt, that in case of war or even an actual and clear approach of one, the reformists will be completely with the bourgeoisie. An agreement with them for a struggle against war is just as impossible as a bloc to carry out the proletarian revolution. Precisely for this reason, to imagine the Anglo-Russian Committee as a weapon of struggle against imperialism, as Stalin did, meant to deceive the workers criminally. But matters are such that history knows not only wars and revolutions but also periods between wars and revolutions, that is, periods when the bourgeoisie makes preparations for war, and the proletariat—for revolution. We live at present in precisely such a period. We must win away the masses from the reformists, who gained strength in recent years and did not weaken. By their strengthening, however, they put themselves into a greater dependence upon the evolution of their proletarian base. It

is upon this dependence that the tactic of the united front is fully based. Only it is necessary to carry it out, not according to Zinoviev and not according to Brandier, not according to Stalin and not according to Bucharin. It is necessary in this question to return to Lenin.

### Groupings in Communism

The Left Opposition, which has not joined in with the catechism of the "Third Period", will once more be accused of a Right deviation by skirmishers like Monmousseau. After the experience of the last six years, we can look calmly at this accusation. Already at the Third Congress of the Comintern, many of the gentlemen who later went over to the social-democracy or remained temporarily at the Brandler stage, accused us together with Lenin of a Right deviation. It is sufficient to recall that at the period of the Fifth Congress, Louis Sellier was one of the main accusers of "Trotskyism".

There is no doubt, however, that the Right elements will actually attempt to make use of some elements of our criticism. This is absolutely unavoidable. It is not necessary to think that all the accusations of the Rights are wrong. Quite often the Rights have a basis for their criticism of the goat-leaps of Left opportunism. Within these limits they are quite inclined to use a Marxist criticism, so as to counterpose under its cover opportunism to adventurism.

It must be added, however, that in the ranks of that Opposition, which quite justly considers itself the Left, were until recently the remnants of such elements as joined us in 1924, not because we defended an international revolutionary position, but because we fought against Zinovievist adventurism. Many potential opportunists, at that period in France adopted the protective coloring of the Russian Opposition. Some of them paraded even until very recently with the fact that they agreed with us without any reservations ("Sans reserves"). But when the real question of the struggle for the front, it was revealed that between these parlor Oppositionists and us there is an abyss. They deny the presence of a revolutionary situation all the more since they do not feel the slightest need for it.

Many good souls were sincerely worried by the fact that we unceasingly drove a wedge between the Left Opposition and the Right. Our classification of the three

### MACHINIST UNEMPLOYMENT WORST SINCE 1921

WASHINGTON—Reports made by locals in 55 American cities to the Washington headquarters of the International Association of Machinists, each week, show that the present crisis in unemployment in this skilled metal trade is the worst since 1921.

Most of these reports show 20 to 100 union members unemployed, and trade "bad" or "poor" or "very dull". The depression began last August and has grown steadily more serious. Many veteran workers still in the prime of life, who have kept at work through all the previous periods of unemployment, have now been without work for six months.

### 60,000 Unemployed in K. C.

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—The unemployment situation in Kansas City is very serious. There are at least 60,000 out of work. Less than 35% of the union men are working. About two weeks ago the city hired some men to shovel snow, with the weather 10 to 15 below zero. Many of the men were so weak that they could not work until they were fed.

### RAIL WORKERS DISCUSS MERGERS

MINNEAPOLIS—Railroad workers when they gather in the yardhouses and other railroad hangouts, find proposed consolidation of the roads, an absorbing topic of conversation. Some railroad leaders, with ears to the ground, have taken up the 6-hour day movement. Others will be surprised when they find their members forming Left wing groups.

### OUR YOUTH SECTION

For lack of space, we are omitting from this issue the "Young Vanguard", our regular section devoted to the working youth. It will appear in the forthcoming number and contain articles by George Ray, Albert Glotzer, Joseph Friedman, and Charles Cartiss.

basic currents in present-day Communism was called arbitrary and they affirmed that for France such a classification is not real because of the absence of a Right wing. The facts of the last months however gave life and blood to the international "schema" also in France. The "Syndicalist League" decisively raised the banner of struggle against Communism finding in this a common ground with the trade union opposition of the second order. Simultaneously the more reformist elements split away from the Party. They utilized the struggle against bureaucratic adventurism, and under the guise of a new party are attempting to preserve their mandates. Immediately, by the power of political relationship, the Right trade union opposition appeared connected with the new parliamentary-municipal "party". Thus gradually everything finds its place. And in this we think the service of La Verite was very considerable.

A straight line is determined by two points. For the determination of a curve it is necessary to have not less than three. The lines of politics are very complicated and curved. In order to evaluate correctly the different groupings, it is necessary to take their behavior for several stages: at the moments of revolutionary rise and at the moment of ebb. To draw a correct revolutionary orbit of the Left Communist opposition is possible only if we put down on paper a series of critical periods: the relationship to the German events of 1923; the question of stabilization in 1924; the relation to industrialization and the Kulak in the U. S. S. R. in 1923-1928; the question of the Kuomintang and the Anglo-Russian Committee; the relation to the Canton uprising, the evaluation of the theory and practice of the "Third Period", etc. Each of these questions by itself includes a whole group of tactical tasks. Out of the complicated system of ideas and slogans the apparatus marauder: tear single phrases and construct on them the idea of an approach between the Left and Right. Marxists take the problem as a whole, carrying the unity of strategic thought throughout different circumstances. This method does not give instantaneous results but it is the only reliable method. Let the spoliators despoil. We will prepare tomorrow's day. Prinkipo, January 8, 1930.

\*By the way, in creating a "workers and peasants" instead of a proletarian party Louis Sellier and company have given life in the West to the gifted formula of Stalin intended for the East.