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Demonstrate on March 6th As Unemployment Grows MINERS! BUILD LEFT WING AT SPRINGFIELD

The efforts of "Prosperity President" Hoover, Big Business, and industry in general, and other agencies to hide the acute conditions among the working masses caused by unemployment already directly affecting seven million workers, are of no avail. Figures and reports from all parts of the country show wide distress and misery in a situation that has become now worse than the depression of 1920 and 1921. Charity flops are overcrowded; black coffee and cheap bread are the luxury doles handed out to those who wait in the long lines of mission houses, charity institutions, etc. Capitalism cannot employ men and women willing and able to work, and so millions of human beings must suffer cold and hunger. Not a single copper cent of their unearned increment will the rich masters give up without the compulsion of the mass pressure of the workers. That is the way of the capitalist system—the system of the claw and fang.

Protests and demonstrations of the unemployed masses in New York, Chicago, Cleveland, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Minneapolis and many other cities throughout the country are met with clubs and black-jacks, guns and tear gas, police wagons and jailings of working men and women and their children. It is government—the government of the American ruling class—the Wall Street bosses—in action. Thus they try to maintain dominion over the masses. With cohesive organization of all their forces they meet the protests of the workers.

Capitalist society cannot eliminate unemployment. Only a social system serving the interests alone of the proletariat and exploited peoples can lay the basis for the elimination of unemployment, exploitation, misery and degradation of the masses. Only in the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics has the basis been laid for cooperative work on behalf of the producers. The working masses in the United States also must have as their objective the abolition of the capitalist system and its replacement by a Workers' Republic. Join Unemployment Demonstrations on March 6th

But today mass unemployment, the problem of the masses to exist is a pressing consideration. The unemployed and employed, the workers organized in labor unions and the unorganized workers, men and women, white and colored—all must unite in protest and action to demand of the bosses that exploit them and the government that protects them—work or compensation; shorter hours of labor to provide work for the unemployed; abolition of the speed-up system that saps the energies of the workers and leaves them worn out and useless at an early age.

All elements among labor, no matter what their particular economic or political views, if sincerely wishing to endeavor to relieve the distress prevalent among all strata of the working masses can find a basis for united action against the common enemy—the wealthy employing class and their governmental hirelings. Sectarianism and aim for group advantage can do only harm. The problem of mass unemployment will face the workers for a long time to come—till the overthrow of capitalism lays the basis for its elimination. From industry and government can be forced certain measures of relief, provided there is militant united action.

Demonstrations have been conducted in many cities already under the direction of organizations, including the Communist League of America (Opposition).

On March 6th demonstrations against unemployment and for relief of the unemployed will be held in cities throughout the United States and in other countries similarly affected. They are under the auspices of the Trade Union Unity League in the United States. We have spoken before of the narrowness of the movement sponsored by the official Communist party and the T. U. U. L., and its failure to endeavor to develop a genuine and broad united front movement for the unemployed. We shall have occasion to speak of it yet again, including the adventurism in calling for strike action in the height of the depression.

On March 6th, however, all militants and Communists, workers of every shade and opinion should make it their business to get into the demonstrations wherever they are held; to help broaden them; to protest as one body against the scourge of capitalism—unemployment; and to demand work or compensation.

"In the name of the rank and file!" This is the pretentious claim of the call issued for a convention of the United Mine Workers to meet at Springfield Ill. on March 10. The call is by a self-constituted organization committee, the main body of which is made up of the Fishwick Farrington Illinois union administration under the Lewis regime.

With the exception of Howat, Brophy and Dorchy, who have at certain times in the past upheld the standard of militant struggle and fought against the destructive, treasonable policy of John L. Lewis, the other signatories to the call have all, during these years not only indorsed the whole of Lewis' policy, but actively carried it out in every one of its treasonable acts.

The destiny of the rank and file coal miners lies in their own hands and theirs is the task, now more than ever, to act, and to act in their own interest. Militancy and courageous self-sacrifice by the coal miners everywhere gained union conditions

for them in the past. Militancy and a knowledge of what needs to be done will show the way out now. To the rank and file this convention can become another opportunity to extend the struggle so well fought in the past. It will become so only by courageous action on their part to put a stop forever to the sell-out policy of the officialdom which has brought the union to almost complete destruction and forced degradation upon the miners.

Immediate Needs of Miners

At innumerable times the coal miners have given voice to their burning needs and decisively brought forth their demands. They are yet to be translated into action and no opportunity should be lost sight of. Again it is necessary for the militants among the rank and file to point the way to united struggle for severance with all the corruption of the past and with all those who have served as the tools of the operators. To take up the struggle aggressively against any further wage reductions; for a minimum wage scale and for control of operation of machine mining by the workers; to eliminate the deadly speed-up and divide the work among the miners; to fight for the shorter workday so as to afford employment for all and to organize the coal miners in every field.

Audacity and militancy in every working class organization and the battle is half won. This is the particular task of progressive and Left wing coal miners to thus show the way.

Send Delegates to March 10th Convention

The progressive and Left wing miners should send the largest possible number of delegates to this convention to endeavor to compel a genuine struggle for these immediate demands and needs of the coal miners. The Left wing, organized in the National Miners Union, has a two-fold task: to strengthen and extend their own independent organization, and, at the same time, to build a Left wing in the U. M. W. of A. The Left wing; the N. M. U., must demand from the progressives—Howat, Brophy, etc.—a stand on the numerous burning issues confronting the miners. The program and declaration of policy presented by the Communist League of America (Opposition) in the March 1st issue of the Militant indicates the path the coal miners of America need to take for the revival of a militant miners' movement and organization.

FLOOD CONTROL CONTRACTORS GYP NEGRO LABORERS

MEMPHIS—(FP)—How U. S. government contractors gyp Negro laborers is revealed by workers employed in the "willow fleets" that ply out of Memphis to work on Mississippi flood control. The willow fleets make the willow mats for the levees.

Hundreds of colored workers employed on these ships are paid off daily in flimsy paper checks redeemable only at the ship's commissary. These checks, printed with weak ink, soon become smudged and illegible. In that condition, the company refuses to redeem them. The laborer then loses the money due him. At the end of the trip, the Negroes present their checks but receive cash only for those which are in good condition.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

In the next issue will appear an article of the most timely interest by L. D. Trotsky on "THE NEW COURSE IN THE ECONOMIC

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STALIN PERSECUTES RAKOVSKY

At the same time that Stalin, in order to face the difficulties accruing from his peasant politics, again and again makes use of the proposals of the Opposition, but in distorted form, or resorts to dangerous ultra-Leftism; when events have confirmed the analyses of the Opposition, he becomes more and more brutal to the members of the Left Opposition who persist in understanding and representing the clear tactics of the proletarian revolution.

Yesterday it was the assassination of Blumkin. Today we receive the most alarming news concerning the health of comrade Rakovsky.

Christian Rakovsky is weakened by malaria and is ill with serious heart trouble. The doctors most categorically ordered a stay in the Caucasus. The political Bureau refused. Deported together with his sick wife to the Siberian winter, Rakovsky at Barnaul is exposed to the most miserable living conditions, to temperatures of 40 and 50 degrees below zero. Our comrade has recurrently suffered from most alarming heart crises.

In addition the usual tactics made use of to exterminate the Opposition—the difficult conditions and hunger—have been directed at him. They have destroyed his means of livelihood in refusing him the historic work which he was fitted for.

The working class remembers the role played by Rakovsky, latterly in France where he represented the proletarian state as Soviet Ambassador. That was before the united fury of the reactionary Le Matin of Paris and the hatred of Stalin resulted in his replacement by the clumsy Dogalevsky, aided by the traitor, Bessedovsky. The working class, particularly in the Soviet Union, the Ukraine, in France, know well Rakovsky's heroic and valorous life, completely devoted to the Revolution. He has remained steadfast and inflexible to the Bolshevik ideal in the face of the fury of the Stalinist degeneration.

The bureaucrats of the Secretariat are preparing a new assassination. But the workers will not permit the cruel persecution of one of the most tried and valuable fighters, for his devotion to their cause, for his high-minded firmness.

Over 8,000,000 Women Toil at Low Wages

According to the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor there are 8,500,000 women wage earners in this country at the present time. Their figures assert that one woman out of every five works in the mills, factories, stores and offices throughout the land; and that out of every five workers in the country one is a woman.

These figures compiled under the direction of the capitalist government of the United States show how important is the winning of the women workers to the labor movement. With 20% of all the workers women, the need of actively drawing them into the labor movement is of major impor-

taunce. Throughout the United States, the women workers are the lowest paid and most exploited section of the proletariat. The employers in the unorganized industries are in very many cases, discharging the men workers and hiring women to do the same work at much reduced rates of pay. In addition, the employers are attempting to force the women to toil long hours, in which they are quite successful although some states have adequate laws that are supposed to prevent the women from working more than a certain amount of hours weekly. It has been shown in many cases