

For the 6-Hour Day, 5-Day Week!

For years the American worker has been the most highly exploited and political backward class in the advanced capitalist nations.

The condition of mass unemployment and the lowering of the standard of living of the American workers has set in motion class forces, that if properly directed by the party, can become the force which will be able to move the class far along the road toward the solution.

Once more history is proving the correctness of a Marxian analysis and the class program for the problem.

When the process of capitalist accumulation reaches its advanced stage when accumulation is counterposed by overpopulation and mass unemployment; when the productive forces reach a point where the relative decrease of the number of industrial workers is transformed into an absolute decrease, expressed by increased production and by a decrease in labor power...

Either of the immediate temporary "solutions" of the problem of the reorganization of labor power to productive forces, the capitalist road or the proletarian road, is negative for the capitalist class from the standpoint of economics, but negative to an entirely different degree.

The aim of the working class must be to utilize this contradiction to widen the gap between these economic contradictions of the capitalist mode of production, accelerate the process of class consciousness and force a reorganization of labor power to productive power...

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Up to the present our constant and consistent criticism and activity against the Stalinist course in the unemployment field and their failure to mobilize a struggle, or at least to prepare the ground for it, around the slogan of the six-hour day and five-day week and no reduction in pay, has, as we have pointed out more than once in the columns of the Militant, resulted in allowing the capitalists to proceed with this gigantic problem unhampered...

Long before last summer when Hoover called a conference of business leaders, financiers, industrialists, labor fakery, etc., to consider the "reduction of hours" and means of "speeding up business recovery"...

being sanctioned by "labor". "Labor" was also opposed to the dole. "Labor" objected to "government charity".

The shorter work day propaganda of the bosses is a means of reducing the standard of living of the workers, is a means of furthering the wage cut drive by the "Stagger Plan" against the workers.

Up to the present, the capitalists have not made much progress with their side of this problem. Nevertheless, what little progress they have made is far greater progress than we have made with our side of the same problem...

Some of the preliminary steps taken now, after three years of the crisis, by

the capitalist class, is the establishment of the "legal" apparatus to "solve" this problem. They have established a national organization, with Walter Teagle, of the Standard Oil, who is now devoting his full time to this "emergency" for (I suppose) a "dollar" a year...

"The entire country has been divided into sections. In each locality a chairman has been appointed who in turn enlists the heads of the large business and industries. All the firms in the same line are grouped together and a vice group or chairman as appointed who in turn enlists the heads of large business and industries.

Teagle says, "more than 3000 firms, mostly in the manufacturing and industrial field have already adopted similar plans and it is estimated that if they had not done so 3,500,000 more workers would have been added to the list of unemployed."

Stalinist Zig-zags on the Chicago Conference

(Concluded from last issue) The Party changed its position on the united front in the Chicago affair. But it changed it in usual fashion.

Party Confusion In his appeal for funds, Goldman, the I. L. D. lawyer, characterized the united front quite correctly. He stated that it was a unity of workers of various political parties and other organizations, united in common struggle on an issue that effected all workers.

Under the training of the theory of social fascism, and having been taught that the party would not and could not sit around one table with social fascists, nor for that matter in one conference, comrade M. drew his logical conclusions...

What is more amusing is the close of Gebert's article. After correctly criticizing the conference for its failure to attempt to draw employed workers into the movement, for having failed to appeal to the A. F. of L. for support...

its failure to draw into the executive committee other delegates besides those from the Workers League, the Unemployed Councils and the Socialist groups...

In the leaflet distributed to the demonstration (See Militant, No. 144) the Opposition, declared its approval of the united front and pointed out that this united front was precisely what the Opposition had been calling for at all times.

An excellent and concise presentation of the view of Engels on the question of 'socialism in one country', is obtained from the pamphlet entitled "Principles of Communism."

We have no doubt that the pressure of the situation brought about this "new line". But this change is only a beginning and

results in the "share the work movement."

It must be remembered that this is the capitalist's side of the problem and is the opposite in content if not in form of the workers side of the question of the reduction of hours.

Speaking of "Job sharing", Teagle says, "The help of the ablest business executives is required. We are trying to mobilize these men for an attack on what I consider the principal obstacle to the return of prosperity: unemployment."

The Left Opposition will continue its propaganda in this field and coordinate it with the other pressing immediate demands for the struggle against unemployment and point out that the solution of the problem is found in the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism.

Trotsky Speaks to American Audiences on Significance of Russian Revolution

(Continued from page 1)

Let me sum up the events which date from 1905. In accordance with its immediate task, the Russian revolution was a bourgeois revolution but the Russian bourgeoisie was already entirely reactionary.

This was the theory of the permanent revolution formulated by me in 1905, and since then exposed to severest criticism under the name of "Trotskyism."

The first and most general explanation is that Russia was a backward country, but only a part of world economy, only an element of the capitalist world system....

In this lies the real reason for the Russian revolution; it occurred because the chain broke at its weakest link. The deplorable condition of the futile monarchic system, aggravated by capitalism's exploitation, created a terrific force which found its realization in the proletariat.

A fundamental factor was the existence of great revolutionary resources in the oppressed nationalities within the borders of the empire, constituting 67 per cent of the total population. To these must be added the experiences of the revolution of 1905, which Lenin called the dress rehearsal of the revolution of 1917...

Last, but far from least, was the existence of a powerful Bolshevik party, the most revolutionary party in the history of mankind. It was the living condensation of the modern history of Russia....

Archives of the Left Opposition

Engels on the International Revolution

Falsification of history! In this concise phrase can be summed up the entire present campaign of the Stalinists in attempting to give to their false theories a heredity dating back to the days of Marx and Engels...

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The work appeared in America as one of the series of pamphlets in "The Little Red Library", under the title "Principles of Communism" (published by the Communist party).

present program of the Communist International. We shall quote from Ryazanoff's "Communist Manifesto" (page 332).

"Answer: No. Large-scale industry, by creating a world-market, has so linked up the peoples of the earth, and especially the civilized peoples of the earth, that each of them is dependent on what happens in other lands.

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JAPAN Its Rise from Feudalism to Capitalist Imperialism and the Development of the Proletariat By Jack Weber

China forms the battleground of the nations and exposes the utterly hopeless contradictions of imperialism. Even back in 1908 U. S. Special Agent Clark, sent to Manchuria, reported: "Manchuria is a very important market for American flour, oil, tobacco, etc., and especially for American piece goods."

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A deadly conflict is constantly being waged for control of Pacific shipping. Here the low wages of Japanese seamen

give Japan an advantage although she is at the peculiar disadvantage of requiring eleven sailors for every eight needed on U. S. ships due to the lower stature of the Japs. Both countries use the shrewdest "catch-as-catch-can" methods in this conflict.

The period from the Russo-Jap War to the present is sown with innumerable seeds of conflict. The ousting of American business from Manchuria raised a storm of obloquy in the press here against all things Japanese.

The conflict over loans and railways

In China present a Gordian knot in the economic battle for supremacy in the Far East. Harriman tried to purchase the South Manchurian railway in 1906. This attempt being futile, Knox then tried to "neutralize" Manchuria by making the railways "international", a move whose only fruit was the secret partitioning of Manchuria between Czarist Russia and Japan.

The World War intensified the struggle for mastery. The U. S. opposed the 21 demands and the attempt of Japan to seize the Siberian Maritime Provinces in the 1918-1920 intervention.

Recent developments: "The Nine Powers Agreement is exclusively the reflection of

the spirit of trade rivalry, England and America wanted, by means of their great wealth, to smash our influence in China. The proposal for the limitation of armaments is merely a means of curtailing our military power and depriving us of the possibility of conquering the huge territory of China."

The share of the U. S. in Chinese trade is on the increase. It controlled 17 per cent of Chinese imports in 1928, the Japanese controlling 26.4 percent. Japan's share is also increasing at the expense of England.

Why has not war resulted long since between Japan and the U. S.? The answer lies in the immense distances involved. So long as Japan controls her inland sea and the open routes to China, she has nothing to fear from the U. S., with its nearest naval base 5,000 miles away.

(To Be Continued)

surrection has approached." He was right. The bourgeoisie finally lost its head. The democratic parties wanted the remains of the confidence of the masses.

Only under such social and political conditions was the insurrection possible, and thus it also became inevitable. The party carried through the October insurrection with cold calculation....

The question now comes up: What was achieved at the high cost of the revolution? Many critics take malicious joy over the fact that the land of the Soviets bears but little resemblance to a realm of general well-being.

Permit me to think that the difficulties and the mistakes, as well as the achievements of the Soviets, are no less familiar to me than to any one else. But in criticism as well as in acclamation, dispassion is needed.

Can such sacrifices be justified from the standpoint of the progressive forces of American society... Absolutely! And from the standpoint of the development of humanity as a whole, there can be no doubt whatever.

Out of the Civil War came the present United States, with its unbounded practical initiative, its technology and its economic life... The deepest, the most objective and most indisputable criterion of social progress is the growth of the Russian revolution from this point of view is already gained by experience.

I am sure that the great American people have the highest interest, moral as well as material, and are in sympathy with the effort of the great Russian people to reorganize their social life on a higher level.

League Resolution For New York Hunger March Conference

The following resolution of the Left Opposition was presented to the New York Ratification meeting of the Unemployment Conference in the selection of delegates for the Hunger March:

Resolution The National Hunger March called by the Unemployment Councils has the endorsement and active support of the Communist League of America (Opposition).

While we are actively participating in the day to day struggle for immediate relief and consider this a most pressing problem of our class, we nevertheless, do not lose sight of, and continually point out, that the solution of unemployment and our other class problems can only be had by the overthrow of the capitalist system.

The struggle for immediate relief and the mobilizing of broad layers of our class to support the Hunger March on Washington can only be accomplished upon the basis of the United Front, as the latest united front of the Communist Party, the socialist party, trade unions and other worker organizations of the Chicago Unemployment Conference.

The Communist League (Opposition) fraction of the Communist Party ask the delegates assembled at the New York ratification meeting to call upon the Communist party to officially send delegates to the Hunger March.

The Hunger March must not limit its demands to immediate relief: To the demand, for Social and Unemployment Insurance, must be added the demand for the Six Hour Day, the Five Day Week and no reduction in pay.

NEW YORK BRANCH, Communist League of America (Opposition)